



APPENDIX 1:

Existing Conditions Report



tomorrow's
mesa
moving forward together
MESA GENERAL PLAN 2050

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 1

Regional Context 2

DEMOGRAPHICS 5

Population 6

Age of Population 7

Race and Ethnicity 8

Educational Attainment..... 9

Income 10

HOUSING 13

Housing Units 14

Household Makeup and Living Arrangements 15

Housing Mix..... 15

Housing Age..... 16

Housing Cost..... 17

BUILT ENVIRONMENT..... 19

Existing Land Use..... 20

Existing Zoning..... 22

Land Vacancy Ownership..... 26

Airport Overflight..... 26

Redevelopment Potential..... 28

Historic Preservation 30

Locally Designated Historic Landmarks and Properties..... 31

Nationally Designated Historic Landmarks and Properties 31





CIRCULATION & MOBILITY 33

Road Network 34

Public Transit 34

Active Transportation 37

Freight..... 37

Vehicle Ownership 39

Commute Times 39

Traffic Congestion 41

Transportation Safety 41

ITS Infrastructure..... 41

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure..... 41

HEALTHCARE & EDUCATION 43

Healthcare 44

Educational Facilities..... 46

Challenges in Education..... 46

Enrollment..... 46

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 49

Employment..... 50

Key Industries..... 50

Wages 50

Small Business 51

Business Districts 52



PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES 55

Parks and Recreational Facilities 56

Access to Parks 56

Recreation Programs 58

Capital Improvement Programs..... 59

Fire and Medical Services..... 60

Law Enforcement..... 60

Electric Services 63

Natural Gas..... 63

Water and Wastewater..... 64

Solid Waste..... 66

Cultural Centers..... 67

Libraries 67

Telecommunications 70

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT 71

Heat and Public Safety 72

Wildfire Risk..... 73

Flooding Risks..... 73

Air Pollution - Ozone 74

Aggregate Resources 75

FIGURES AND TABLES

FIGURES

Figure 1. Regional Context	2
Figure 2. Mesa's Visual Growth Timeline	3
Figure 3. Population Projections.....	6
Figure 4. Age Distribution.....	7
Figure 5. Population - Race and Ethnicity	8
Figure 6. Educational Attainment.....	9
Figure 7. Median Income in Mesa	11
Figure 8. Total Households by Type.....	15
Figure 9. Proportion of Housing Units by Year Built	16
Figure 10. Single-Family Home Prices in Mesa and Maricopa County.....	18
Figure 11. Median Home Price, 2018 to 2022, Regionally	18
Figure 12. Existing Land Use in Mesa	20
Figure 13. Existing Land Use in Mesa	21
Figure 14. Existing Zoning In Mesa.....	23
Figure 15. Airport Areas in Mesa.....	27
Figure 16. Areas with Redevelopment Potential in Mesa.....	29
Figure 17. Mesa Historic Districts and Landmarks.....	32
Figure 18. Annual Transit Ridership (2017-2022).....	34
Figure 19. Functional Classification (2023).....	35
Figure 20. Public Transit in Mesa	36
Figure 21. Active Transportation in Mesa.....	38
Figure 22. Average Commute Times.....	39

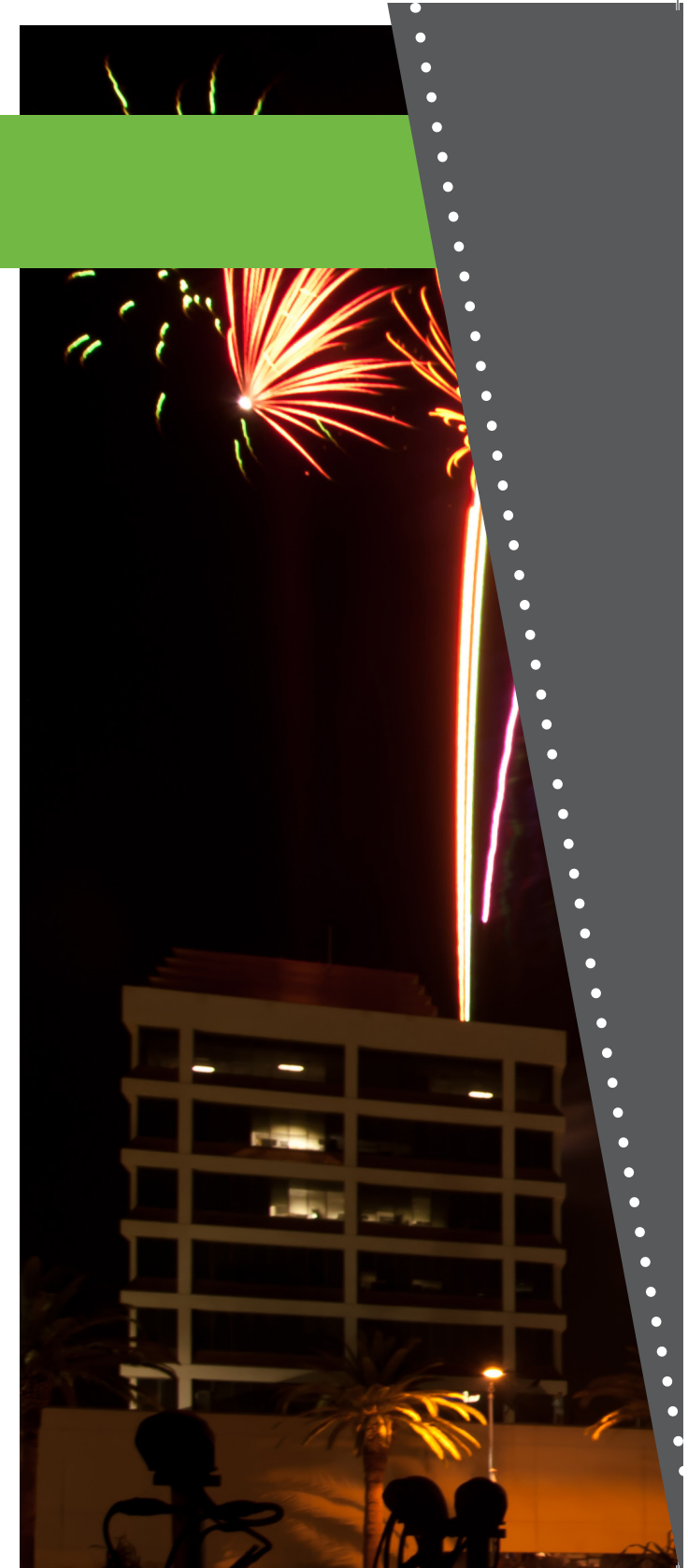


Figure 23. Hospitals in Mesa..... 45

Figure 24. Public Schools in Mesa..... 47

Figure 25. District Enrollment, Three-Year Change 48

Figure 26. Business Districts in Mesa..... 53

Figure 27. Parks, Recreation, and Trails in Mesa 57

Figure 28. Five-Year CIP by Category 59

Figure 29. Five-Year History for CIP (in Millions)..... 59

Figure 30. Fire Services in Mesa..... 61

Figure 31. Public Safety Facilities in Mesa..... 62

Figure 32. Current Energy Use within the City of Mesa 63

Figure 33. Water Facilities in Mesa..... 65

Figure 34. Annual Tonnage of Solid Waste per Year 66

Figure 35. Downtown Arts and Cultural Amenities 68

Figure 36. Cultural Sites and Libraries in Mesa 69

Figure 37. Heat-Associated Deaths by Year..... 72

Figure 38. 2022 Summer Temperatures in Mesa 73

Figure 39. Aggregate Resources Map 76

TABLES

Table 1. Household Costs 10

Table 2. 2021 Housing Units in Mesa and Surrounding Region 14

Table 3. Land Area by Zoning..... 24

Table 4. Vacant Land Area by Zoning 25

Table 5. Mesa Commute Times 40

Table 6. Key Industries in Mesa 51

Table 7. Top Employers in Mesa..... 51





Introduction

In 2022, the City of Mesa kicked off a two-year process to update its General Plan. The General Plan will establish a community vision for the City over the next 10 to 20 years and serve as the City's primary policy guide for growth and development, transportation, public facilities, parks, environmental areas, and more.

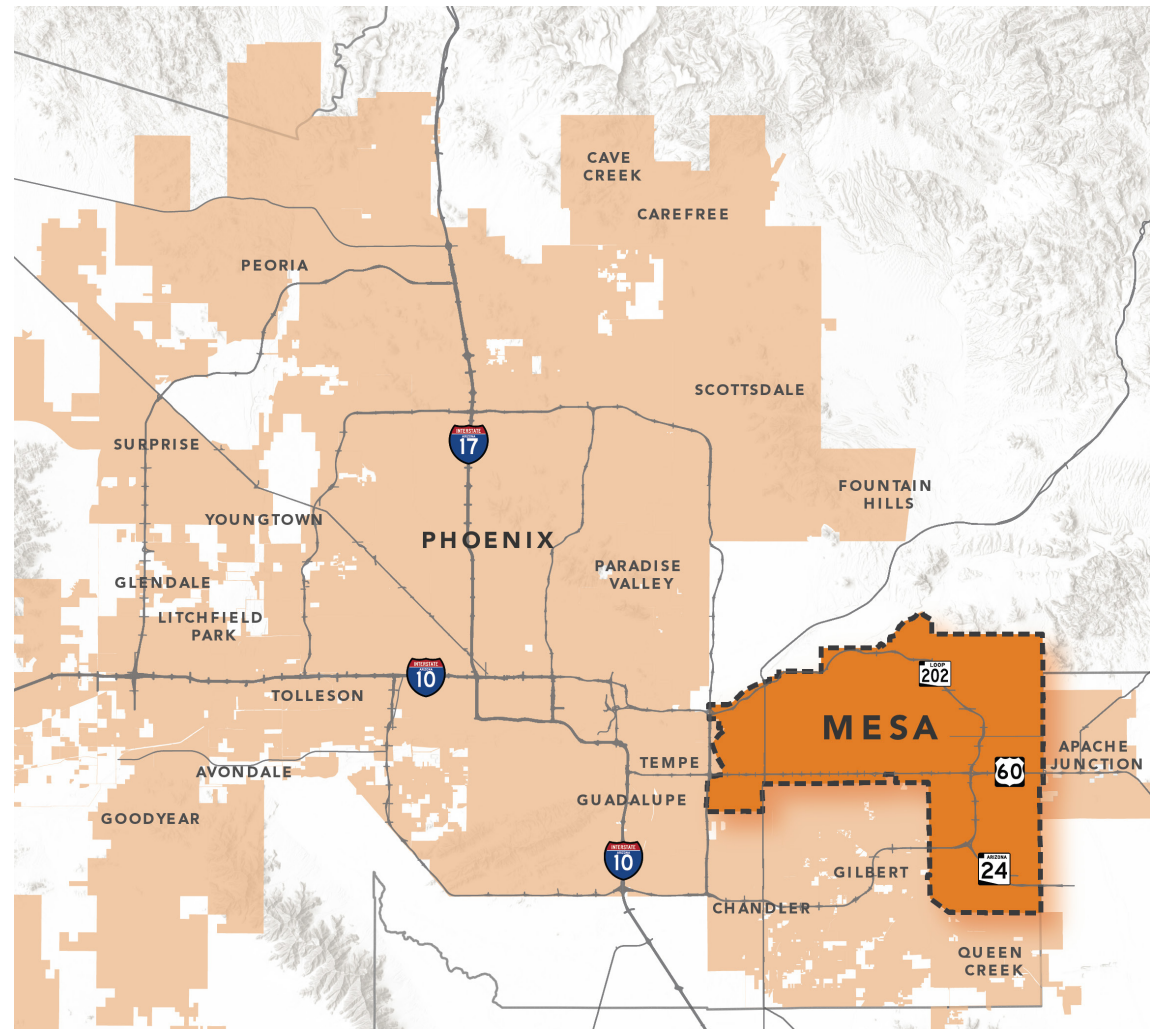
This Existing Conditions Report represents one of the first steps towards development of the Mesa 2050 General Plan and provides a summary of existing conditions and trends related to demographics, land use, economics, transportation, environment, etc. The report lays the foundation for the forthcoming recommendations by identifying issues that need to be addressed or assets that should be protected or enhanced.

Regional Context

The City of Mesa is located in Maricopa County, Arizona and is situated within what is considered the East Valley of the Phoenix Metropolitan Area (PMA). Mesa's Municipal Planning Area (MPA) encompasses 170 square miles or 108,800 acres and is bordered by the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community to the north, Apache Junction to the east, the City of Chandler, the Town of Gilbert, and the Town of Queen Creek to the south, and the City of Tempe to the west.

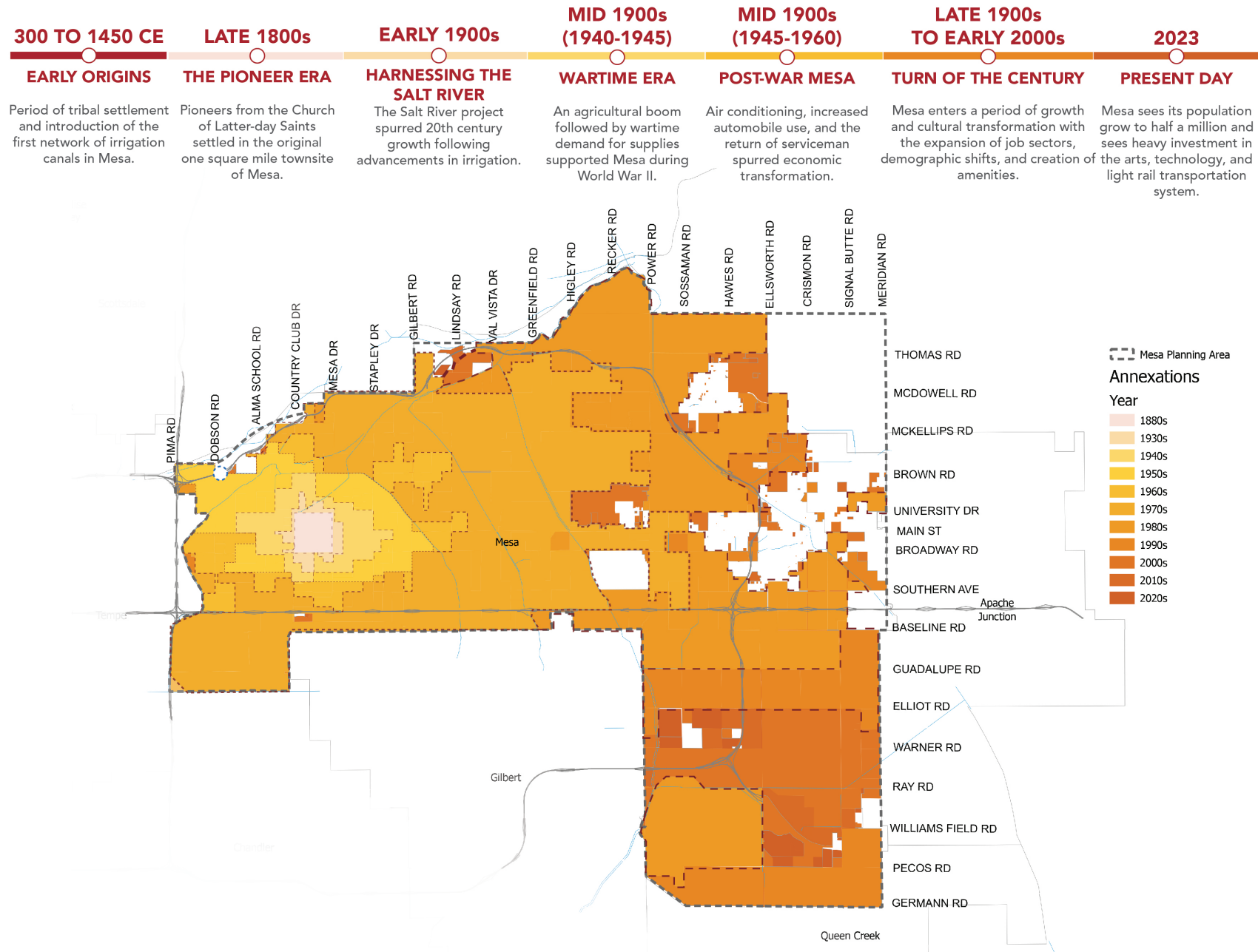
Mesa is one of the most populated cities in Arizona and continues to experience consistent population growth. The City has expanded its jurisdictional area and boundaries through annexations since its founding in 1883, growing from one square mile to approximately 142 City-incorporated square miles in 2023.

Figure 1. Regional Context



Source: Logan Simpson, 2023

Figure 2. Mesa's Visual Growth Timeline



THIS PAGE HAS BEEN INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

An aerial photograph of a large outdoor concert at a university. A massive crowd of people is seated on the grass in front of a large, modern building with a curved roof. A stage is visible on the right side of the image, with a band performing. The scene is surrounded by trees and a parking lot in the background. A green diagonal banner with white dots runs across the bottom left corner, containing the word "DEMOGRAPHICS" in large, white, outlined letters.

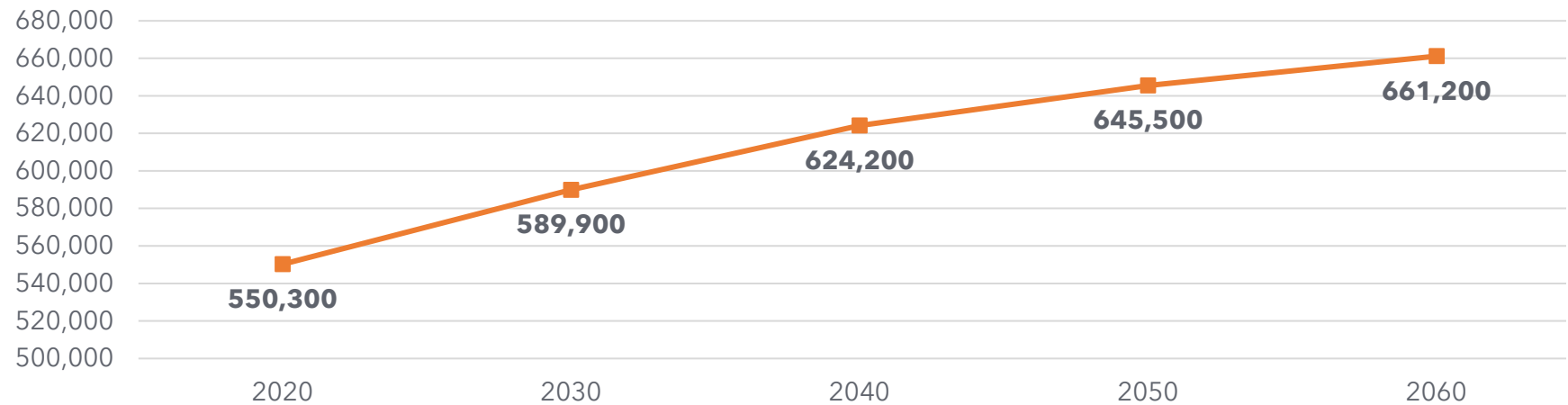
DEMOGRAPHICS



POPULATION

According to the US Census Bureau, Mesa's population in 2021 was 544,976 residents. It is anticipated that Mesa will continue to experience growth similar to the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. According to Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Mesa's population is projected to grow 21% and reach 660,129 residents by 2060.

Figure 3. Population Projections



Source: MAG 2023 Socioeconomic Projections, Mesa Planning Area

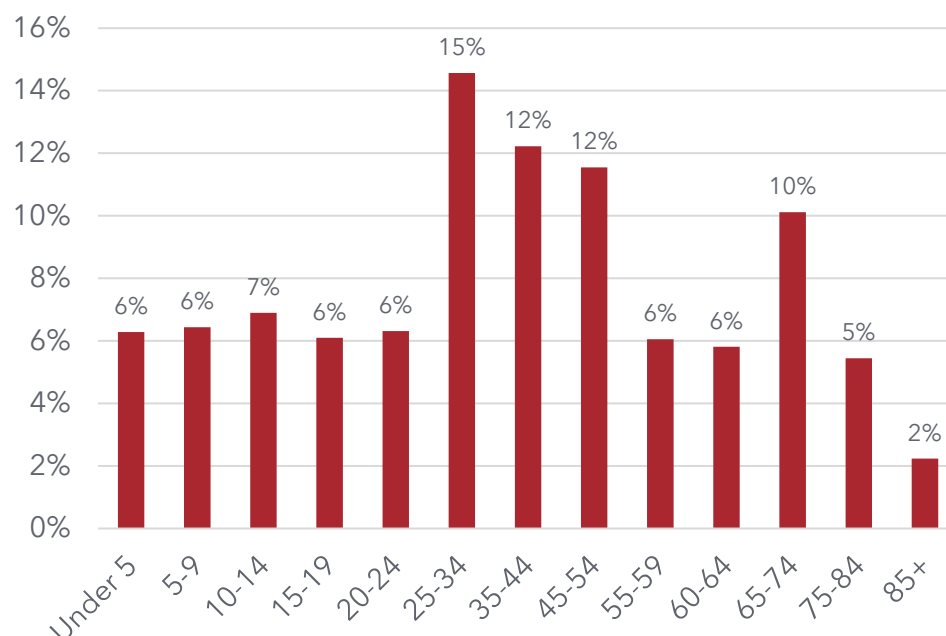


AGE OF POPULATION

The median age in Mesa is 39.9 years old, which is up from 34.5 in 2010 and is expected to continue to grow slowly over the next five years.

The largest cohort of Mesa residents are between the ages of 25 and 54. Mesa's population is slightly older than neighboring communities of Chandler, Gilbert, and Queen Creek which have median ages in the mid-30s, but younger than Apache Junction and Scottsdale with median ages between 47 and 54 years old.

Figure 4. Age Distribution



Source: US Census Bureau, 2017 - 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates

Tomorrow's Mesa 2050 General Plan, Existing Conditions Report

Did You Know?



MESA'S MEDIAN AGE IS 1 YEAR OLDER THAN THAT OF THE UNITED STATES



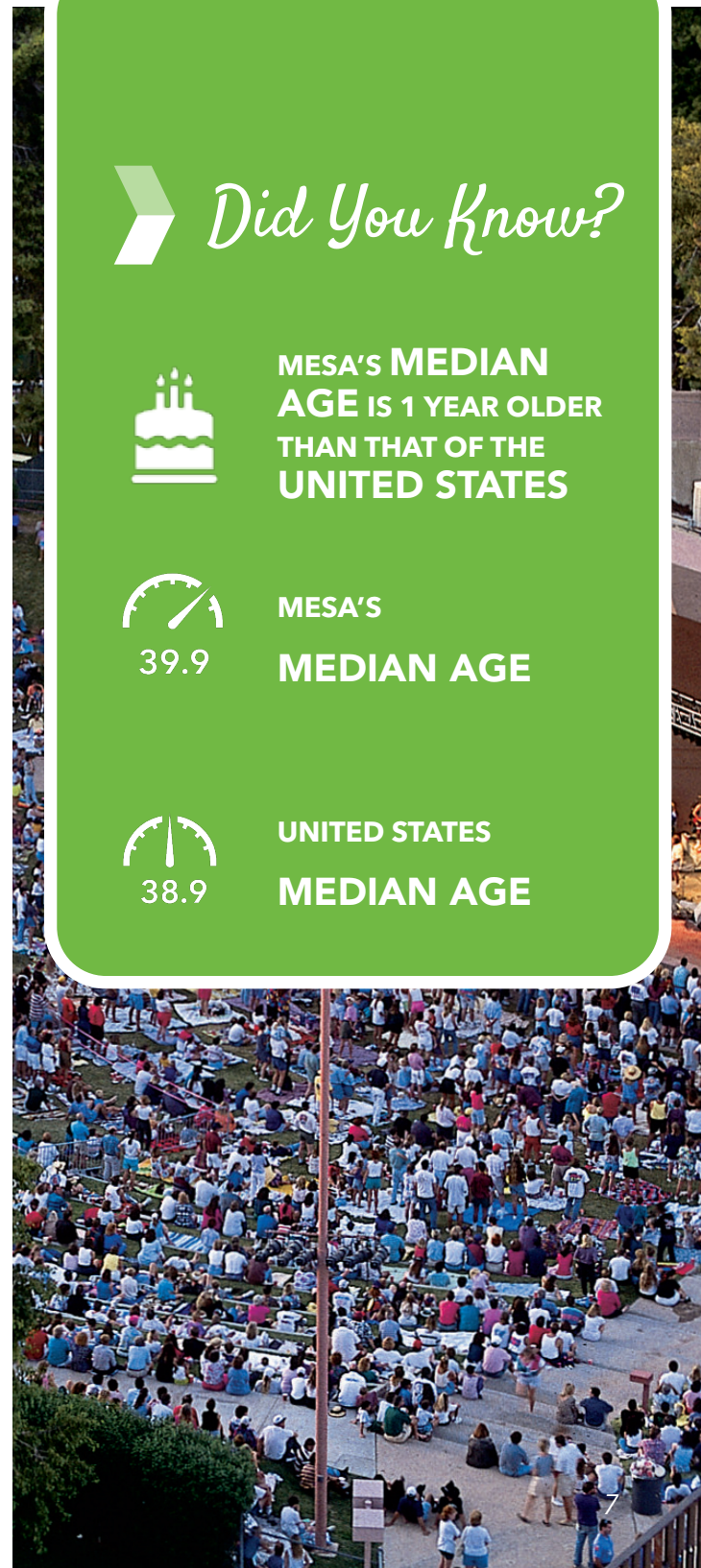
39.9

MESA'S MEDIAN AGE



38.9

UNITED STATES MEDIAN AGE

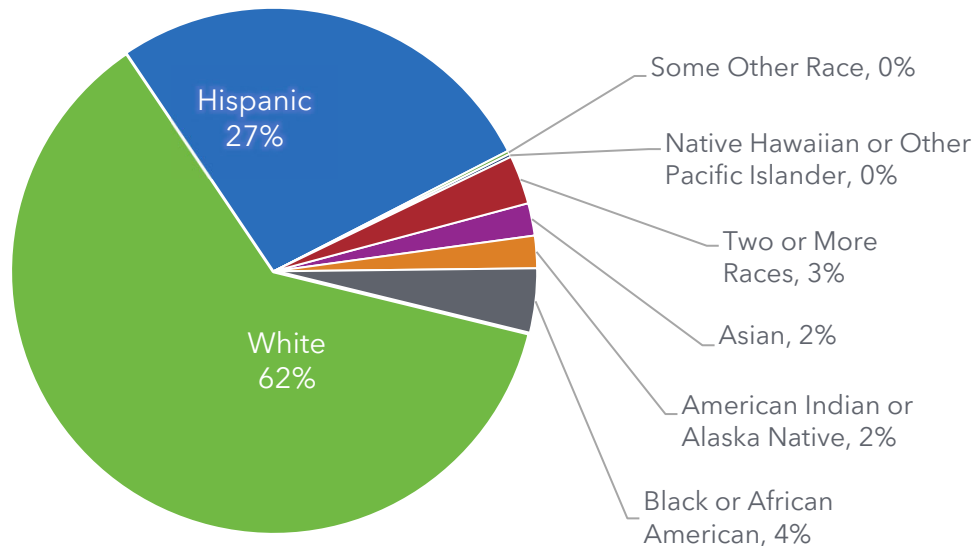




RACE AND ETHNICITY

Mesa residents are predominately White with 62% of the population reporting being White alone. This is a higher proportion than the County with 53% of the population identifying as White alone. Mesa has a slightly lower proportion of its population identifying as Hispanic or Latino compared to the County; however, this community still accounts for a significant proportion of the population (27%). Further, although the percentage of Asian residents is only 2% and Black or African American is only 4%, these groups have significantly contributed to the culture and history of Mesa dating back to the early 1900s.

Figure 5. Population - Race and Ethnicity



Source: US Census Bureau, 2017 - 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates

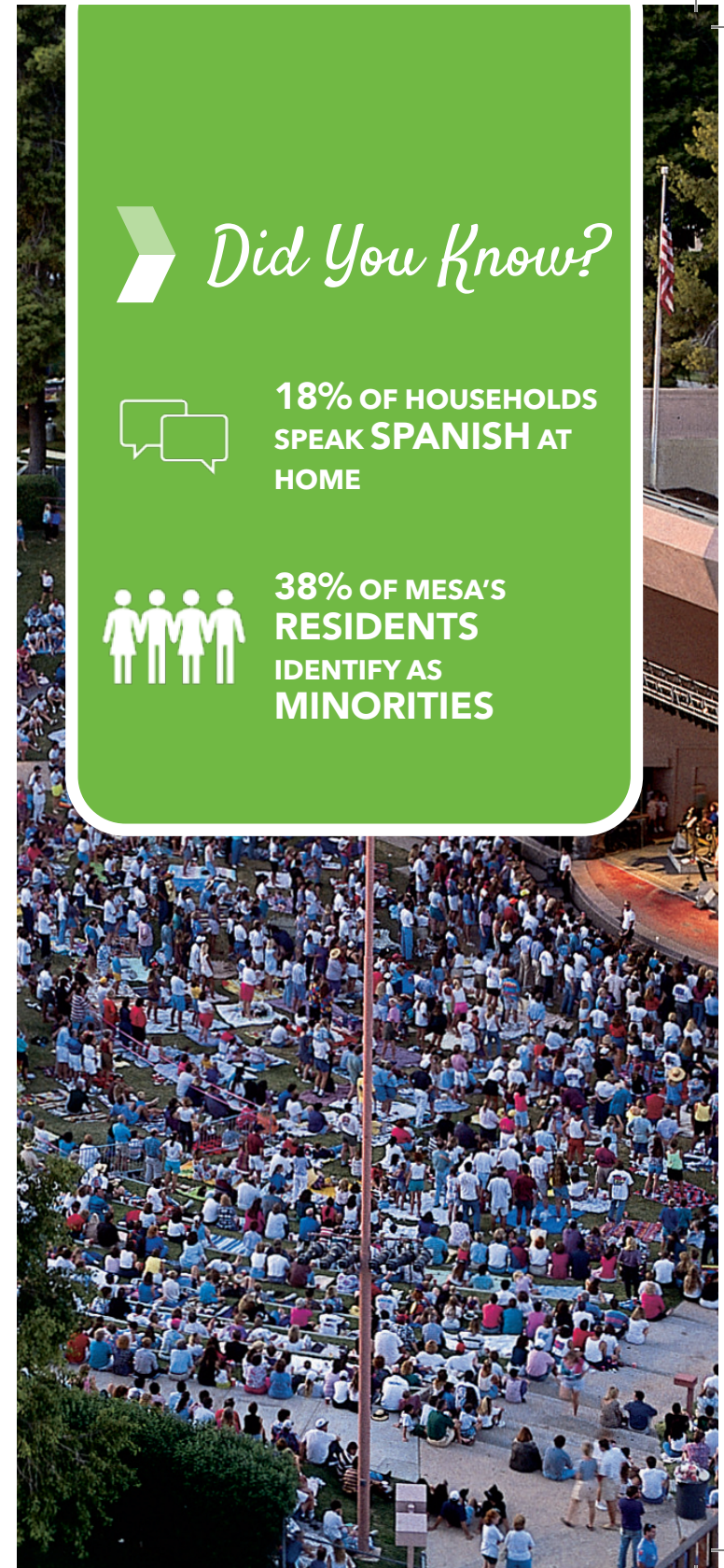
Did You Know?



**18% OF HOUSEHOLDS
SPEAK SPANISH AT
HOME**



**38% OF MESA'S
RESIDENTS
IDENTIFY AS
MINORITIES**

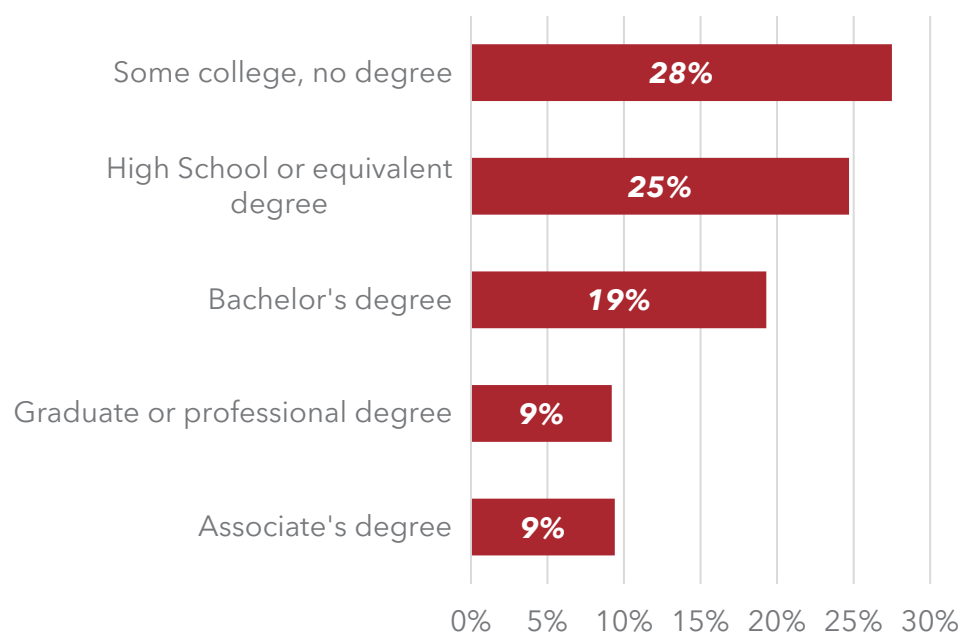




EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Mesa's educational attainment characteristics are similar to that of Maricopa County and the State of Arizona. Of the population aged 25 and older, 19% have a bachelor's degree, and an additional 28% have some college education but no degree. Looking at school-aged children, approximately 70% of Mesa residents enrolled in school are in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Figure 6. Educational Attainment



Source: US Census Bureau, 2017 - 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates



Did You Know?



**88.9% OF RESIDENTS
HAVE A HIGH
SCHOOL DEGREE
OR HIGHER**



**THERE ARE 24 "A"
OR "A+" RANKED
SCHOOLS IN MESA**



**MESA UNIFIED
SCHOOL
DISTRICT IS THE
LARGEST PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
ARIZONA**



INCOME

The median household income in Mesa is \$65,725, with family households earning \$78,855 annually, married couples earning \$91,858 each year, and non-family households earning \$43,321 annually. The difference between incomes of married couples and family households may be due to the proportion of single-parent households in Mesa with only one income earner.

The poverty rate in Mesa is 12.5%, which is slightly lower than the Arizona state-wide poverty rate of 13%. However, homelessness in Mesa has steadily increased from 144 in 2018, to 451 in 2022, and representing 0.0007% of the population.

Income levels range significantly across the City, with the lowest income levels found in the central parts of Mesa and higher income levels generally found in the northern and eastern parts of the community.

Table 1. Household Costs

	HOUSING	TRANSPORTATION	REMAINING
Mesa	24%	21%	55%
Maricopa County	27%	22%	51%

Source: Center for Neighborhood Technology Housing + Transportation Index, 2020

Did You Know?



**MESA'S MEDIAN
HOUSEHOLD INCOME
is \$65,725**



**MESA HAS A 12.5%
POVERTY RATE**

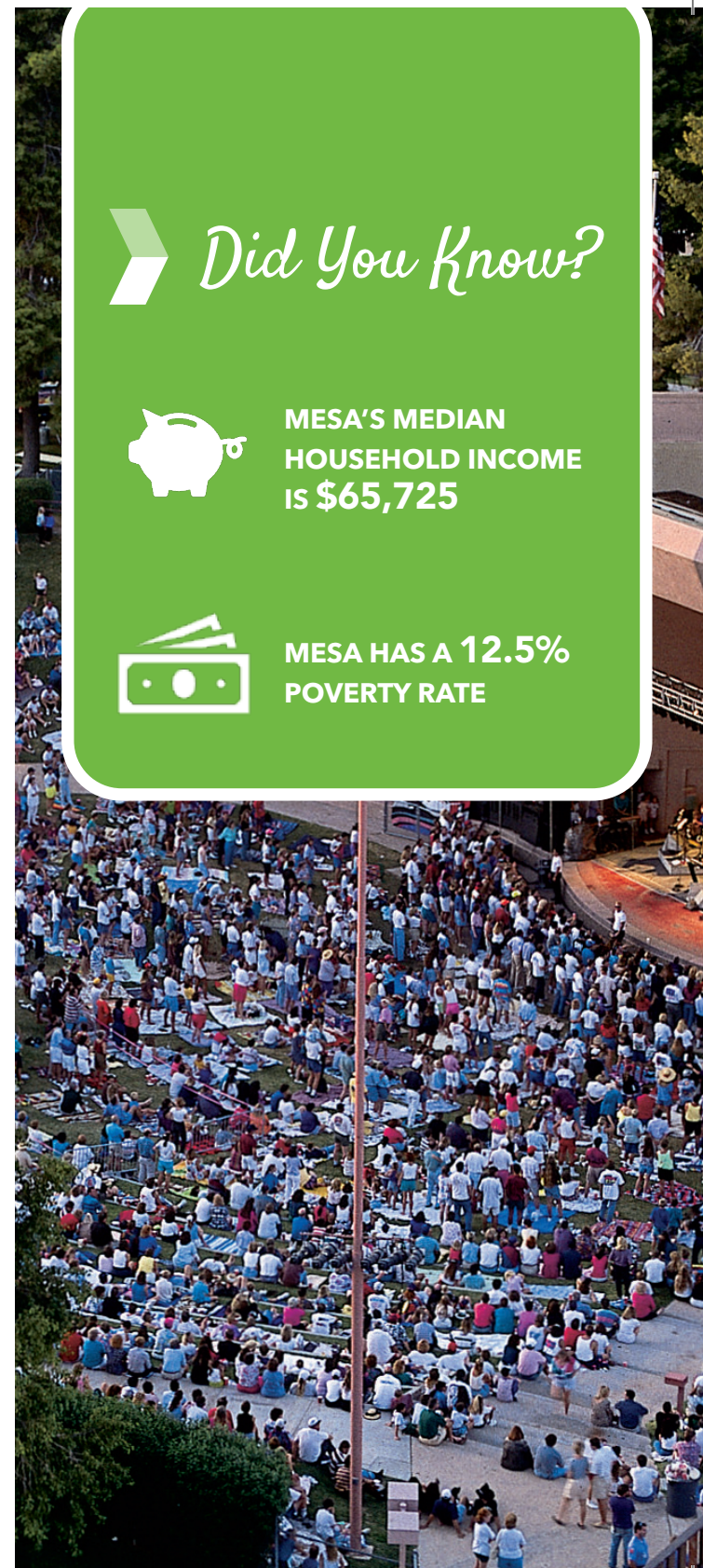
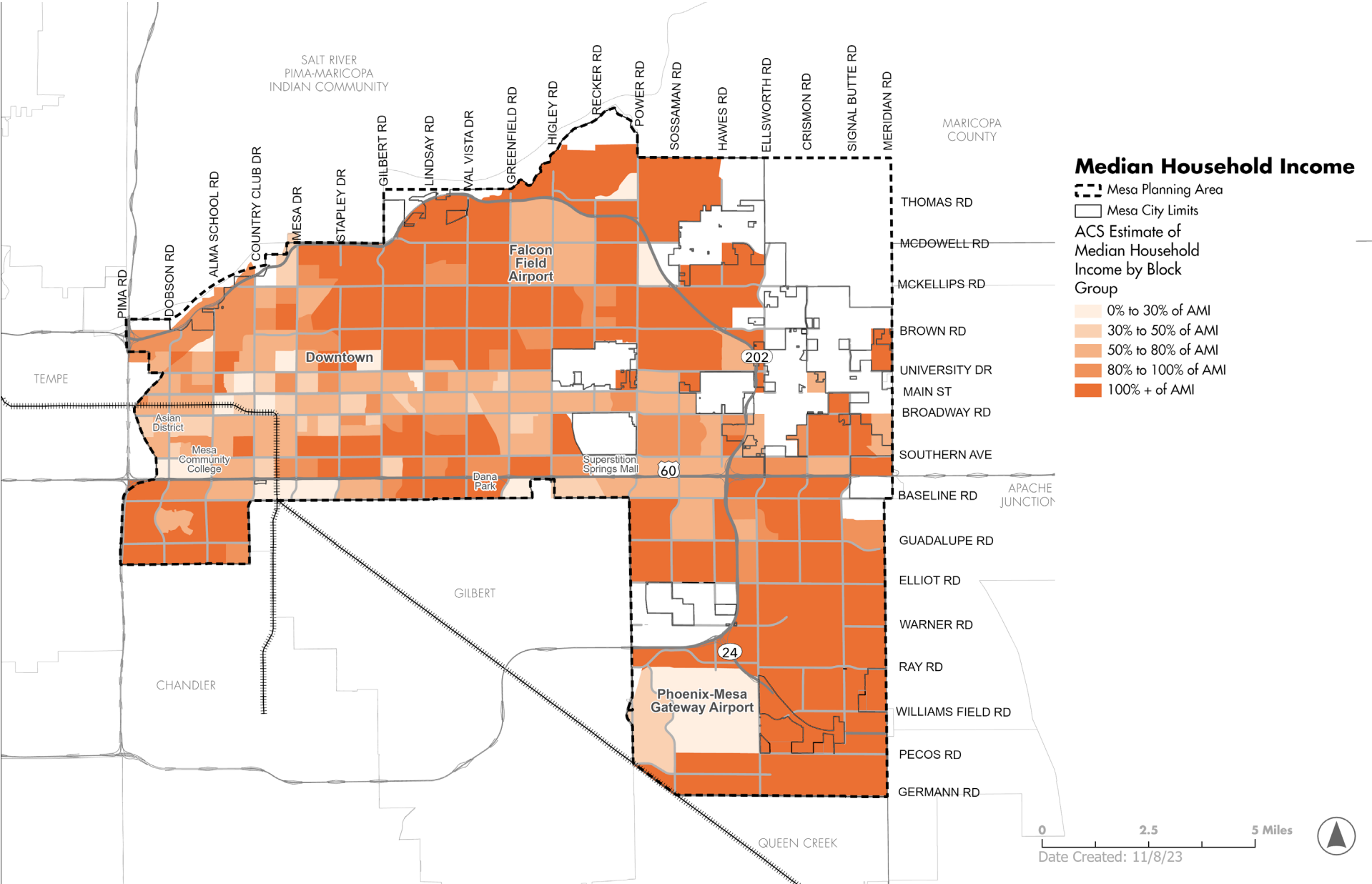


Figure 7. Median Income in Mesa



Source: US Census Bureau, 2017-2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK



HOUSING



HOUSING UNITS

The total number of housing units in 2021 in Mesa was 217,404 which accounted for nearly 12% of all housing units in Maricopa County. Mesa is the second largest city in Maricopa County, surpassed only by Phoenix which contains 34.8% of all housing units in Maricopa County.

Table 2. 2021 Housing Units in Mesa and Surrounding Region

	PHOENIX	GLENDALE	SCOTTSDALE	TEMPE	GILBERT	MESA	MARICOPA COUNTY
Housing Units	624,409	89,455	134,918	80,663	92,375	217,404	1,794,248
% of Maricopa County	34.08%	4.99%	7.52%	4.50%	5.15%	12.12%	

Source: US Census Bureau - ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2017 - 2021

Did You Know?



**217,404 HOUSING
UNITS IN MESA**



**MESA'S HOUSING
UNITS ACCOUNT FOR
12% OF ALL UNITS
IN MARICOPA COUNTY**



HOUSEHOLD MAKEUP AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Mesa's average household size is 2.6 people per household. Approximately 65% of Mesa's households are classified as "family households", and 35% are classified "non-family households", meaning there is not a child under the age of 18 in the house or there is only one parent in the home. 47% of all Mesa households are considered "married-couple family households", which is the largest portion of household types in the City.



HOUSING MIX

Mesa's housing stock consists primarily of single-family homes which accounted for 63% of all housing units in 2023. While Mesa has a similar ratio of multi-family units to total housing units (37.5%) compared to the County (36%), it has a relatively high proportion of mobile home units. In fact, Mesa has more mobile homes than Phoenix, a city with nearly three times the number of total housing units than Mesa. In Mesa, mobile homes represent over 10% of all housing units whereas in Phoenix they represent roughly 3%. There is also some correlation between areas of poverty in Mesa and the location of mobile home units.

Did You Know?



**MESA'S AVERAGE
HOUSEHOLD
SIZE is 2.6 PEOPLE
PER HOUSEHOLD**

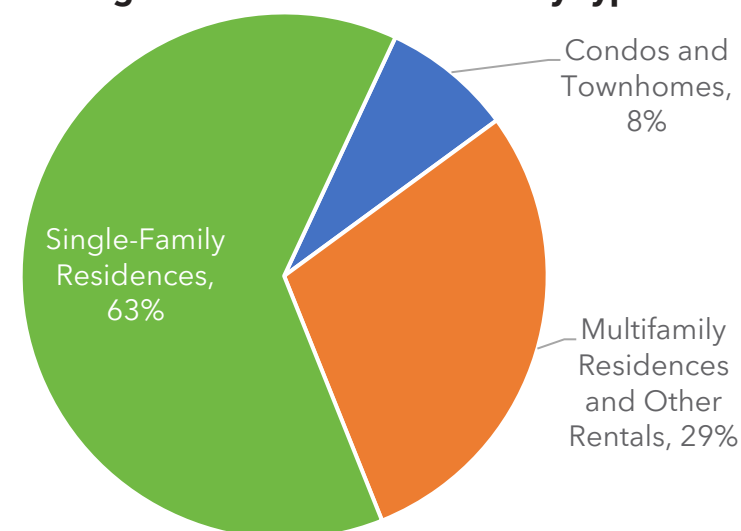


**64% OF HOUSEHOLDS
ARE FAMILY
HOUSEHOLDS**



**47% OF HOUSEHOLDS
ARE MARRIED-
COUPLE FAMILY
HOUSEHOLDS**

Figure 8. Total Households by Type



Source: US Census Bureau, 2017 - 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates



HOUSING AGE

The nature and condition of Mesa's housing stock varies across the City and significantly depends on age. Although there is a considerable amount of older construction in Mesa, the City's housing stock is generally newer than the rest of Maricopa County, with 70% of housing in the City built after 1980, compared to 50% of the housing stock in Maricopa County as a whole built after 1980. Construction peaked in the 1980s when the City experienced its highest growth, with 24% of the City's total available housing constructed in that decade alone. While new construction has taken place since then, the rate of new construction has slowed considerably since its peak in the 1980s, decreasing over each decade.



Did You Know?

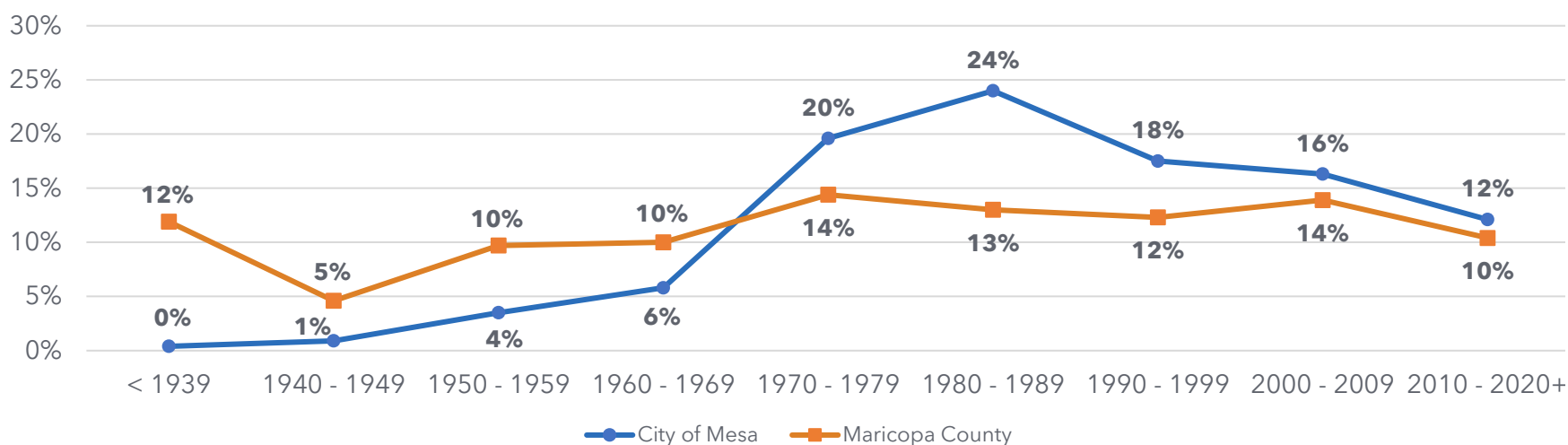


**70% OF HOUSING
IN MESA WAS
CONSTRUCTED AFTER
1980**



**NEARLY 1/4 OF ALL
HOMES IN MESA
WERE CONSTRUCTED
BETWEEN 1980 AND
1989**

Figure 9. Proportion of Housing Units by Year Built



Source: US Census Bureau 5 year estimates (2017-2021)



HOUSING COST

Compared to the County, Mesa has a lower proportion of higher and lower-end housing but is well-established in mid-level housing. Mesa's median home price is approximately \$455,000 which is slightly lower than the median home price in Maricopa County (\$465,000). According to the Maricopa County Assessor's database, 3% of Mesa's housing units are valued above \$750,000, in comparison to 6.6% of the County's units. If Mesa were to have the same proportion of higher-end housing units as the County overall, it would need an additional 8,000 units today.

Owner and renter costs are less per month, on average, in Mesa than in the County. The average rental cost in Mesa is \$1,302 a month and \$1,389 a month in Maricopa County. This suggests that Mesa is relatively more affordable than most surrounding areas.

Mesa has seen a rise in renter-occupied housing units in the last decade. According to ACS 5-Year Estimates, in 2010, 34.4% of housing units were rented, and in 2020, 37.5% were renter-occupied. Vacancy rates for multi-family units are extremely low (2.6%), which serves to push rents ever higher.

➤ *Did You Know?*

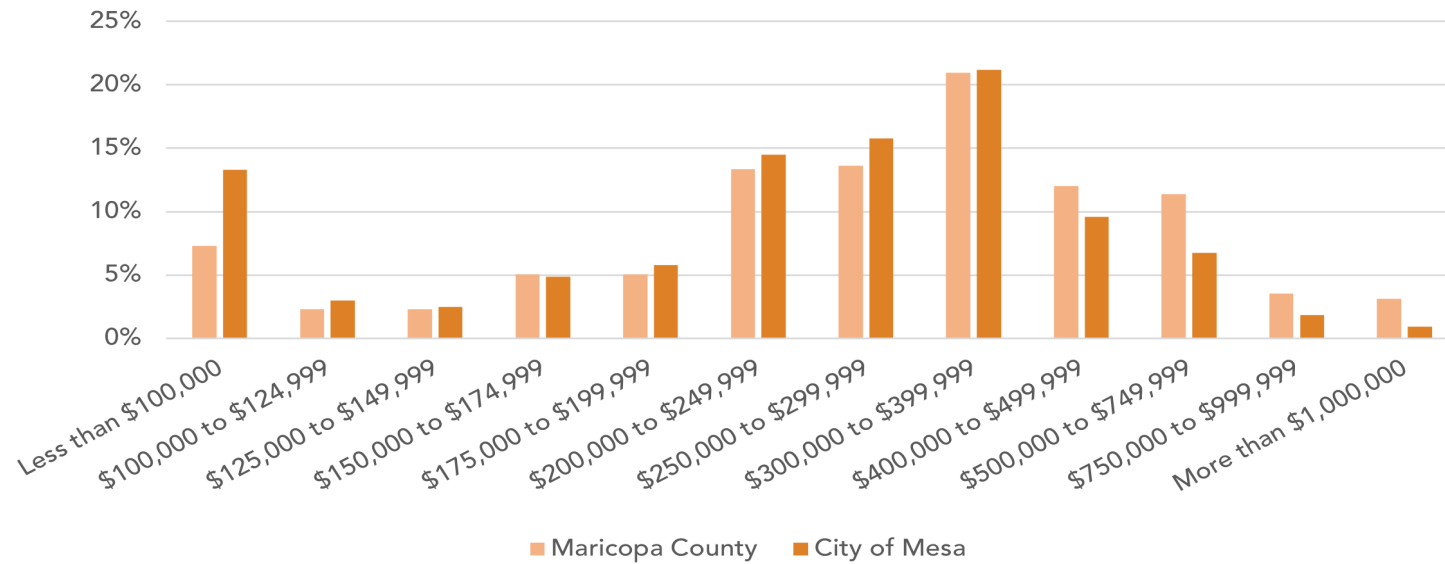


**AVERAGE RENT FOR
MULTI-FAMILY
HOUSING IS \$1,302**



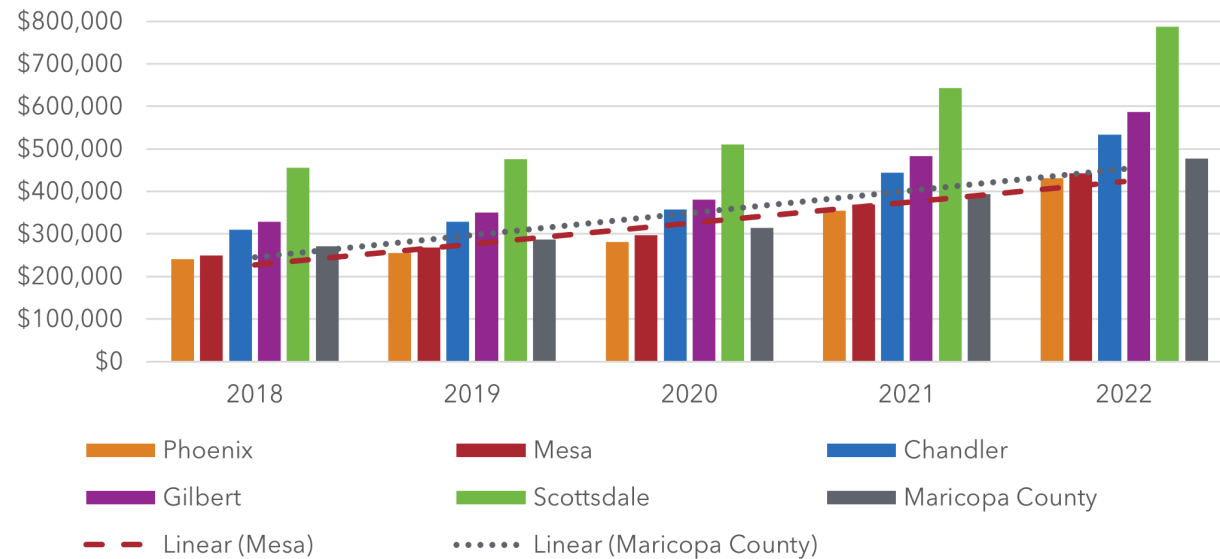
**MEDIAN HOME
PRICE IS \$455,000**

Figure 10. Single-Family Home Prices in Mesa and Maricopa County



Source: Maricopa County Assessor

Figure 11. Median Home Price, 2018 to 2022, Regionally



Source: Zillow 2018-2022

The image features a wide-angle photograph of a city skyline during a vibrant sunset. The sky is filled with large, textured clouds that are illuminated from below by the setting sun, creating a palette of deep oranges, yellows, and some darker purples. The sun itself is a bright, glowing orb positioned just above the horizon line, which is marked by a range of low mountains. In the foreground, a dense urban landscape is visible, with various buildings of different heights and styles. A prominent white building with a 'us bank' logo is visible on the right side of the frame. The city is interspersed with palm trees and other vegetation. On the left side of the image, there is a large, green, triangular graphic element that points towards the bottom-left corner. This green area is decorated with a series of small white dots along its hypotenuse and along its bottom edge. Overlaid on the center of the cityscape is the text 'BUILT ENVIRONMENT' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. The letters have a thin green outline, which makes them stand out against the background of the city and sky.

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

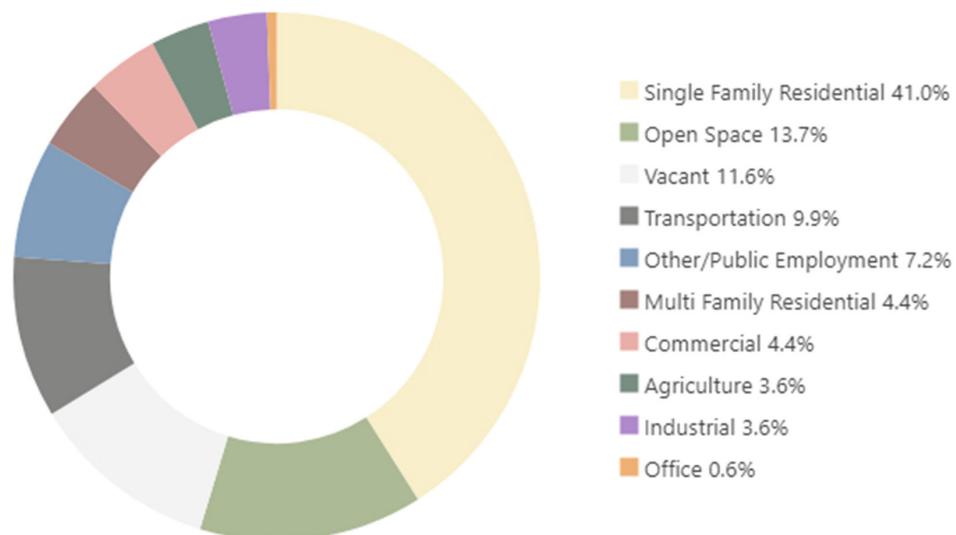


EXISTING LAND USE

The prominent land use in Mesa is single-family residential which accounts for 41% of the land area in the City. There has been a slight decrease in transportation from 2022 to 2023. Vacant land has increased from 2020 to 2023 from 11.1% to 11.6%, and single-family residential dropped 0.5% from 2022 to 2023. Over time, single-family residential remained the highest percentage of land use throughout the City.

The distribution of land uses in the western part of the City is more diverse and finer grained. As one moves east into the City land uses are more homogenous with large areas dedicated to a single use such as residential and industrial.

Figure 12. Existing Land Use in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa

Did You Know?



1.9% OF PARCELS HAVE REDEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL



9.4% OF PARCELS ARE BEING ACTIVELY REDEVELOPED OR HAVE APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PLANS

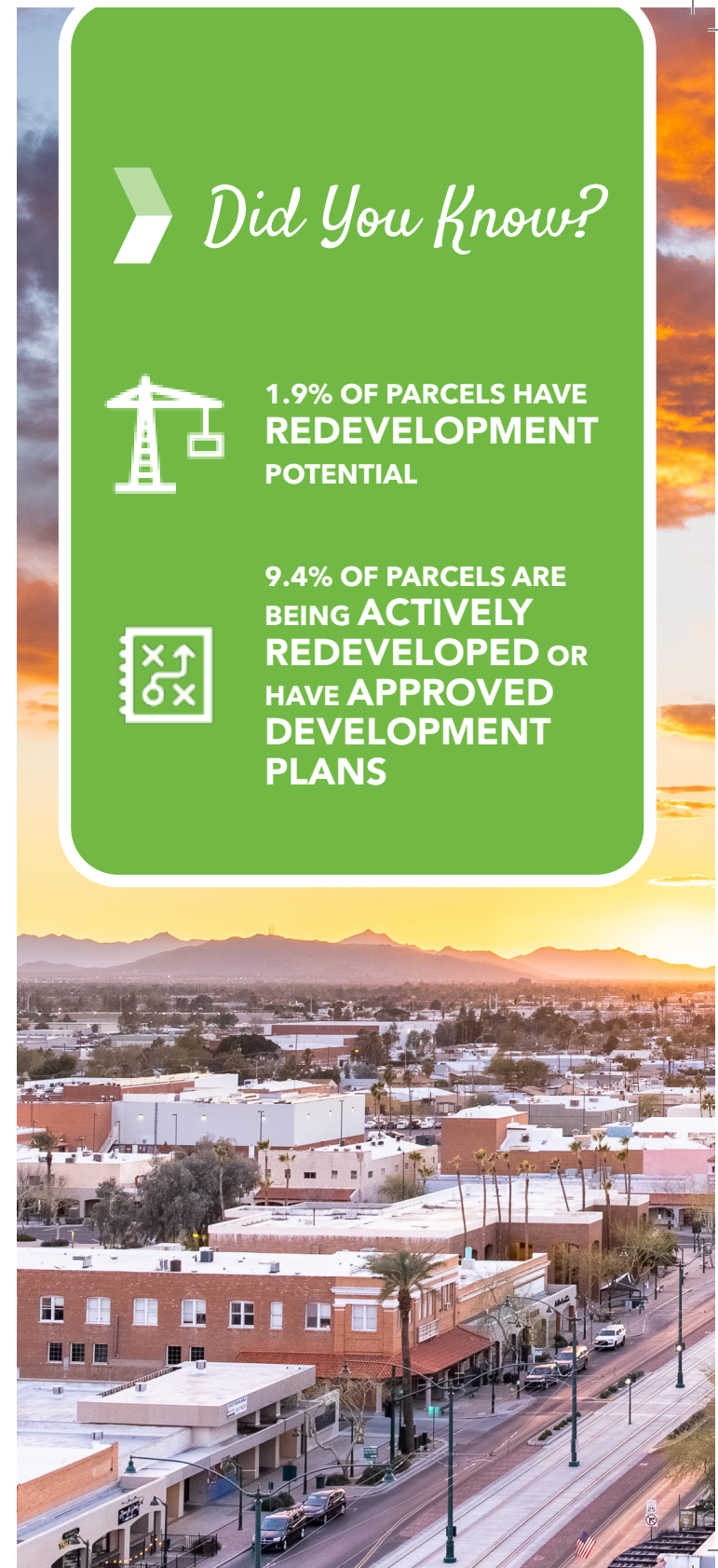
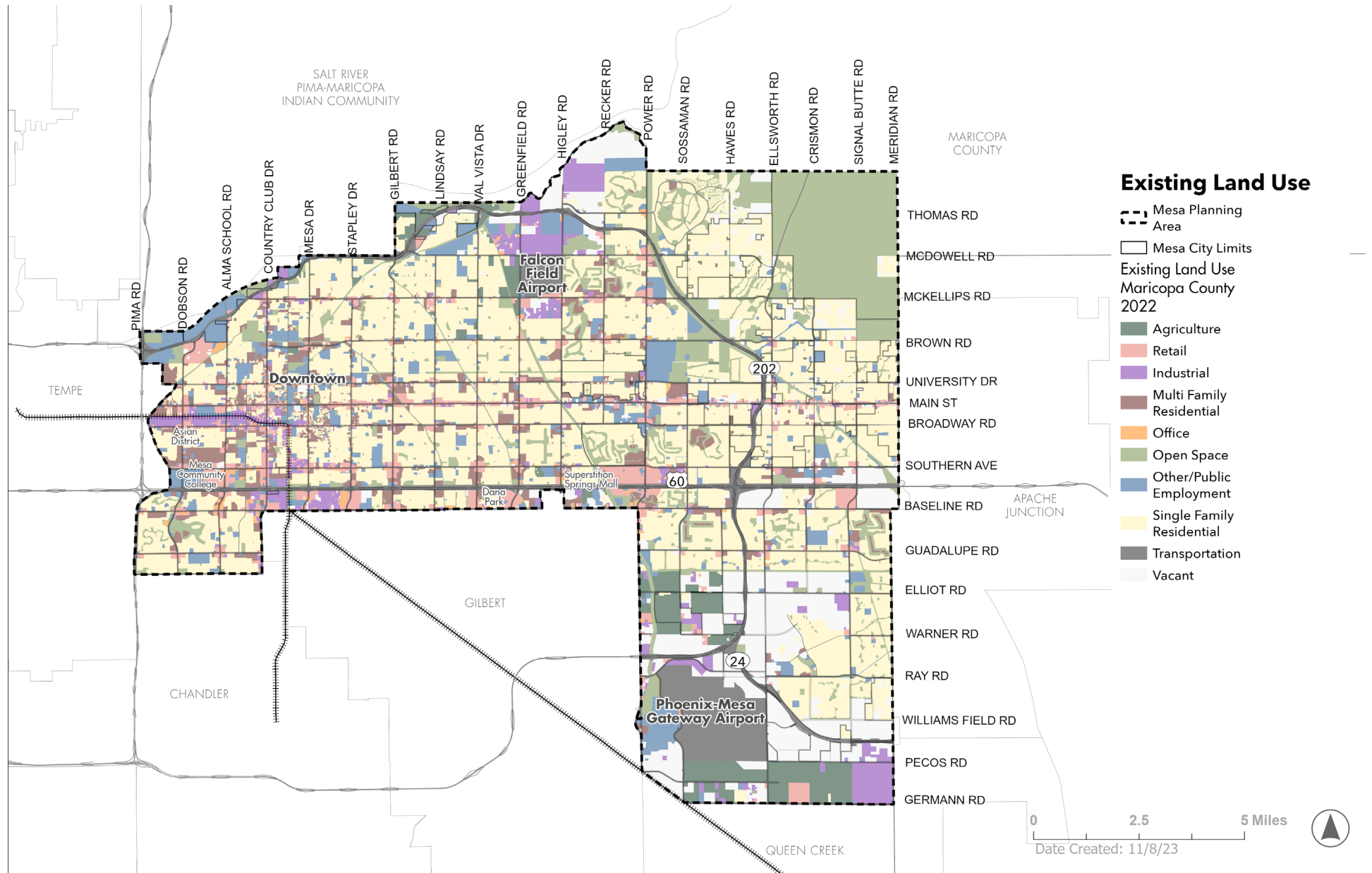


Figure 13. Existing Land Use in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa

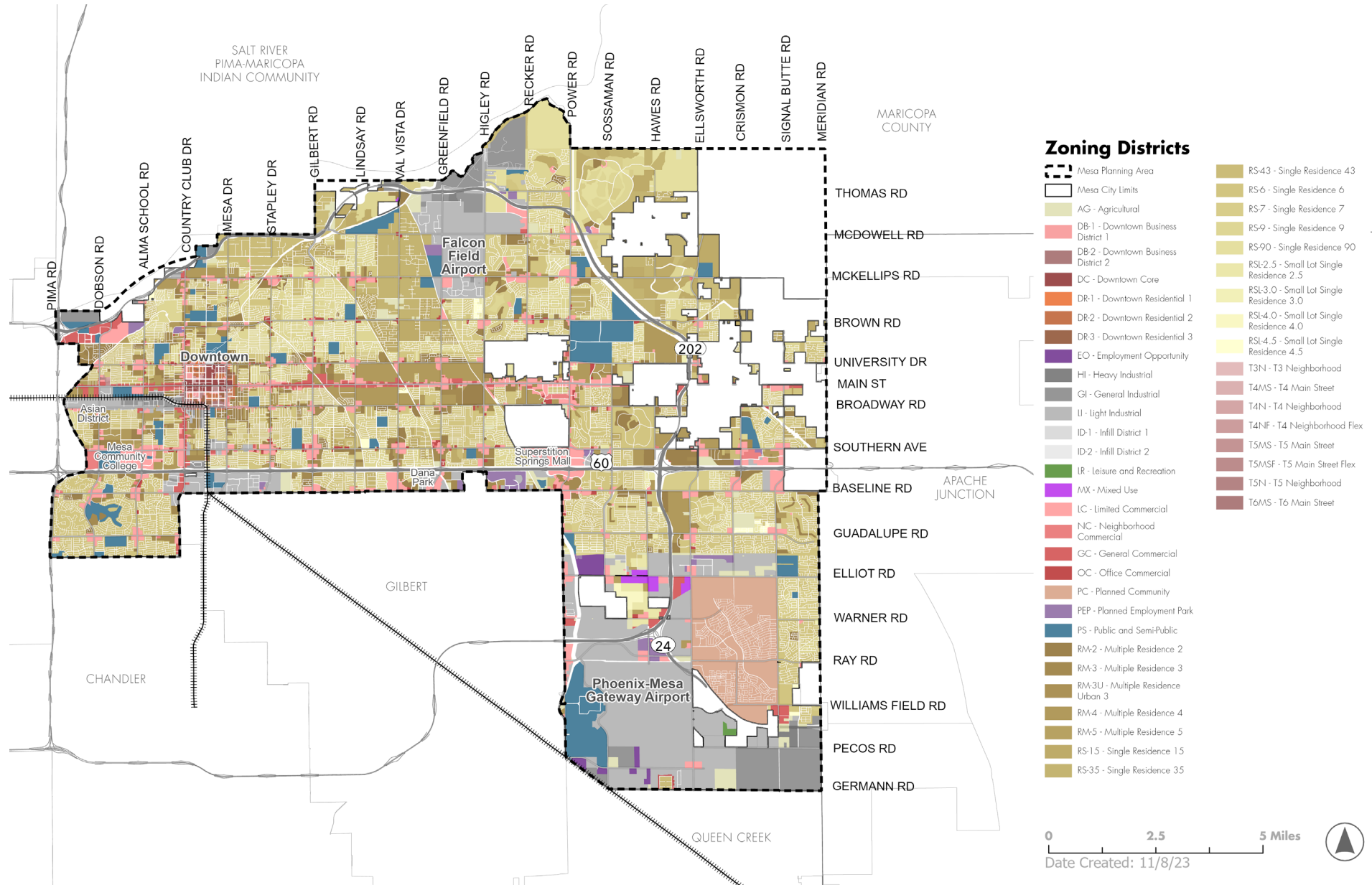


EXISTING ZONING

The Mesa Zoning Ordinance (MZO) contains 45 zoning districts including 18 residential districts, six commercial districts, five employment districts, five districts that allow for a mix of uses, eight form based code transect districts, one agricultural district, one public and semi-public district, and one leisure and recreation district. The MZO also contains seven overlay districts.

Table 4 shows vacant land broken down by zoning district. The highest amounts of vacant land are present in residential and employment districts, making up 25% and 42.6% of vacant land, respectively. This amount of vacant land is only within the zoned portions of the City. Additional vacant land exists in areas that have not yet been zoned.

Figure 14. Existing Zoning In Mesa



Source: City of Mesa

Table 3. Land Area by Zoning

ZONING DISTRICT GROUP	ZONING DISTRICTS	ACRES	PERCENT OF LAND AREA
Residential Districts	Single Residential (RS) – 90, 43, 35, 15, 9, 7, 6 Residential Small Lot (RSL) – 4.5, 4.0, 3.0, 2.5 Multiple Residence (RM) – 5, 4, 3, 3U, 2 Downtown Residence (DR) – 3, 2, 1	44,257.3	59.3%
Commercial Districts	Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Limited Commercial (LC) General Commercial (GC) Office Commercial (OC) Downtown Business (DB) – 2, 1	6,182.2	8.3%
Employment Districts	Planned Employment Park (PEP) Light Industrial (LI) General Industrial (GI) Heavy Industrial (HI) Employment Opportunity (EO)	14,751.8	19.8%
Mixed Use Districts	Mixed Use (MX) Downtown Core (DC) Planned Community (PC) Infill Development (ID) – 2, 1	3,786.1	5.1%
Form Based Code Transects	Transect 3: Neighborhood (T3N) Transect 4: Neighborhood (T4N) Neighborhood Flex (T4NF) Main Street (T4MS) Transect 5: Neighborhood (T5N) Main Street Flex (T5MSF) Main Street (T5MS) Transect 6: Main Street (T6MS)	75.7	0.1%
Other	Agriculture (AG) Public and Semi-Public (PS) Leisure and Recreation (LR)	5,587.6	7.5%

Table 4. Vacant Land Area by Zoning

ZONING DISTRICT GROUP	ZONING DISTRICTS	ACRES OF VACANT LAND	PERCENT OF VACANT LAND AREA
Residential Districts	Single Residential (RS) – 90, 43, 35, 15, 9, 7, 6 Residential Small Lot (RSL) – 4.5, 4.0, 3.0, 2.5 Multiple Residence (RM) – 5, 4, 3, 3U, 2 Downtown Residence (DR) – 3, 2, 1	2,402.2	25.0%
Commercial Districts	Neighborhood Commercial (NC) Limited Commercial (LC) General Commercial (GC) Office Commercial (OC) Downtown Business (DB) – 2, 1	832.2	8.7%
Employment Districts	Planned Employment Park (PEP) Light Industrial (LI) General Industrial (GI) Heavy Industrial (HI) Employment Opportunity (EO)	4,100.2	42.6%
Mixed Use Districts	Mixed Use (MX) Downtown Core (DC) Planned Community (PC) Infill Development (ID) – 2, 1	1,614.1	16.8%
Form Based Code Transects	Transect 3: Neighborhood (T3N) Transect 4: Neighborhood (T4N) Neighborhood Flex (T4NF) Main Street (T4MS) Transect 5: Neighborhood (T5N) Main Street Flex (T5MSF) Main Street (T5MS) Transect 6: Main Street (T6MS)	16.2	0.2%
Other	Agriculture (AG) Public and Semi-Public (PS) Leisure and Recreation (LR)	654.6	6.8%



LAND VACANCY OWNERSHIP

Land ownership throughout the City varies. However, 94.84% of land within the City is privately owned, making it the largest type of ownership. The next largest ownership percentage is state land at 2.6%. The large amount of private land in Mesa provides ample opportunity for economic development, as private owners can sell or develop land to fit the needs of the community.

Of the vacant land within the City's boundary, 8,423 acres, or nearly 90%, is privately owned. This signifies that Mesa has more access to developable land to support future growth. The majority of vacant land is located in the southeastern part of the City near the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport and is surrounded by large amounts of single-family residential land uses, along with agriculture and transportation. This land is currently undeveloped but could see future growth in retail and commercial uses to support the existing population or further residential development.

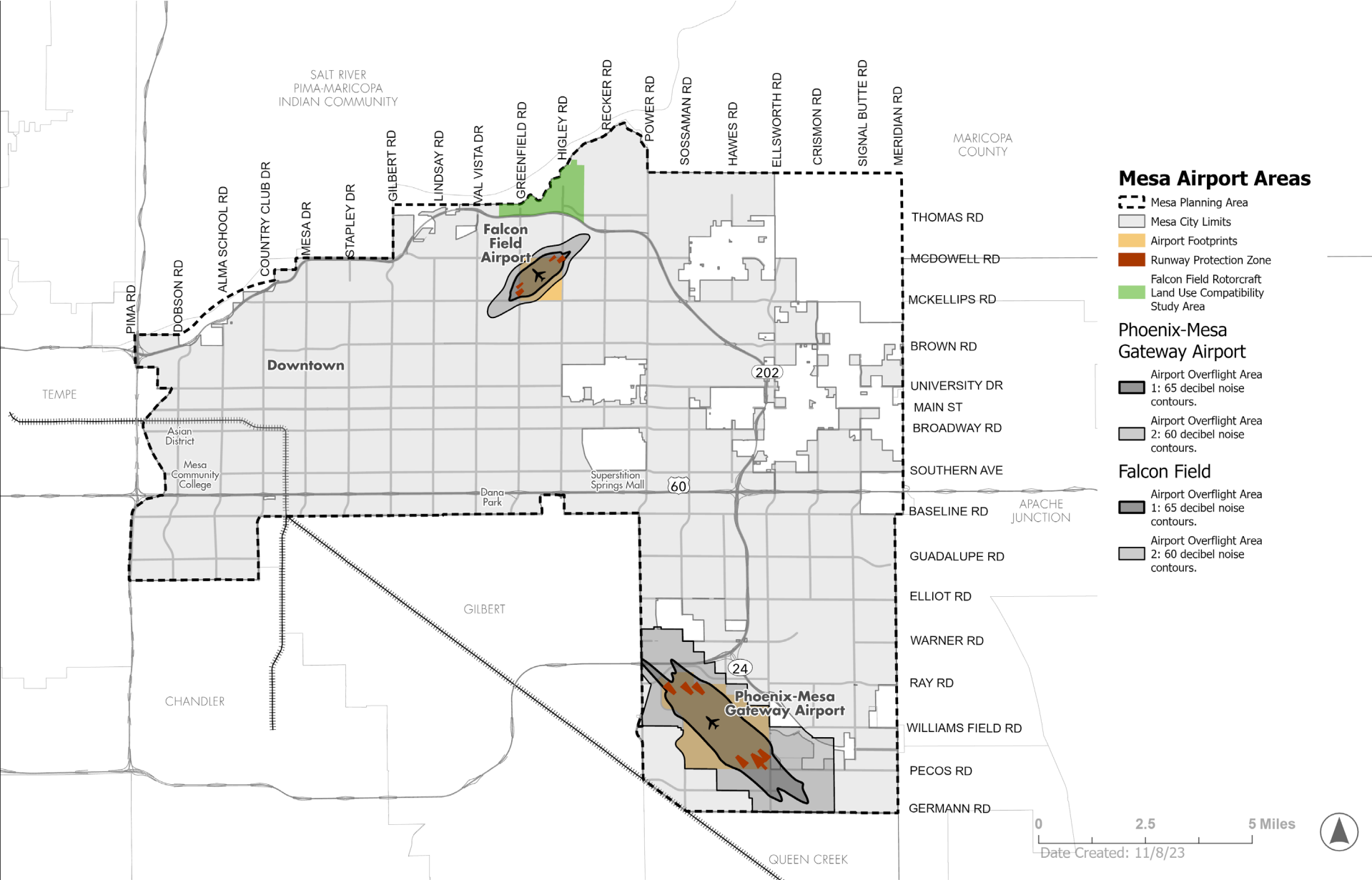
Vacant land outside the City's boundary shows areas where the City could grow in the future. Vacant land and County islands within City boundaries with the potential for annexation is just over 2,000 acres.



AIRPORT OVERFLIGHT

Mesa has two airports, each with their own overflight zones. These overflight zones are depicted in Figure 21 within the Circulation and Mobility section. Overflight zones are areas of restricted activity to protect the public and aviation operations from hazards. The City's overflight zones create 65- and 60-decibel noise contours, which limit incompatible development incompatible within these areas.

Figure 15. Airport Areas in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa



REDEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

As the City reaches buildout, growth will start focusing inwards and look to the revitalization and transformation of previously developed areas. Redevelopment, infill projects, and the strategic reuse of existing spaces will be crucial to creating desirable places for Mesa residents.

The City of Mesa recognizes four redevelopment areas (RDAs) which exhibit blight and require revitalization. Through the identification of these RDAs and creation of specific plans for their redevelopment, property owners within these areas may be eligible to receive federal funds for building renovations, new construction, and the creation of neighborhood amenities.

Reinvestment in RDAs can spur positive economic, social, and environmental changes and allows the City to reimagine these areas, often incorporating innovative ideas around sustainable development, housing solutions, and service provision.

In addition to RDAs, there are approximately 21,800 additional acres of land considered to be ripe for change, property that is either vacant, in transition with development plans, or eligible for redevelopment. Figure 15 includes the RDAs, encompassed under land marked for redevelopment. Unlike the RDAs, other areas noted as redevelopment are not adopted redevelopment areas but can help inform and guide the creation of future RDAs.

Did You Know?



**MESA HAS 4
REDEVELOPMENT AREA
PLANS**

**1. TOWN CENTER
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN
- ADOPTED 1999**

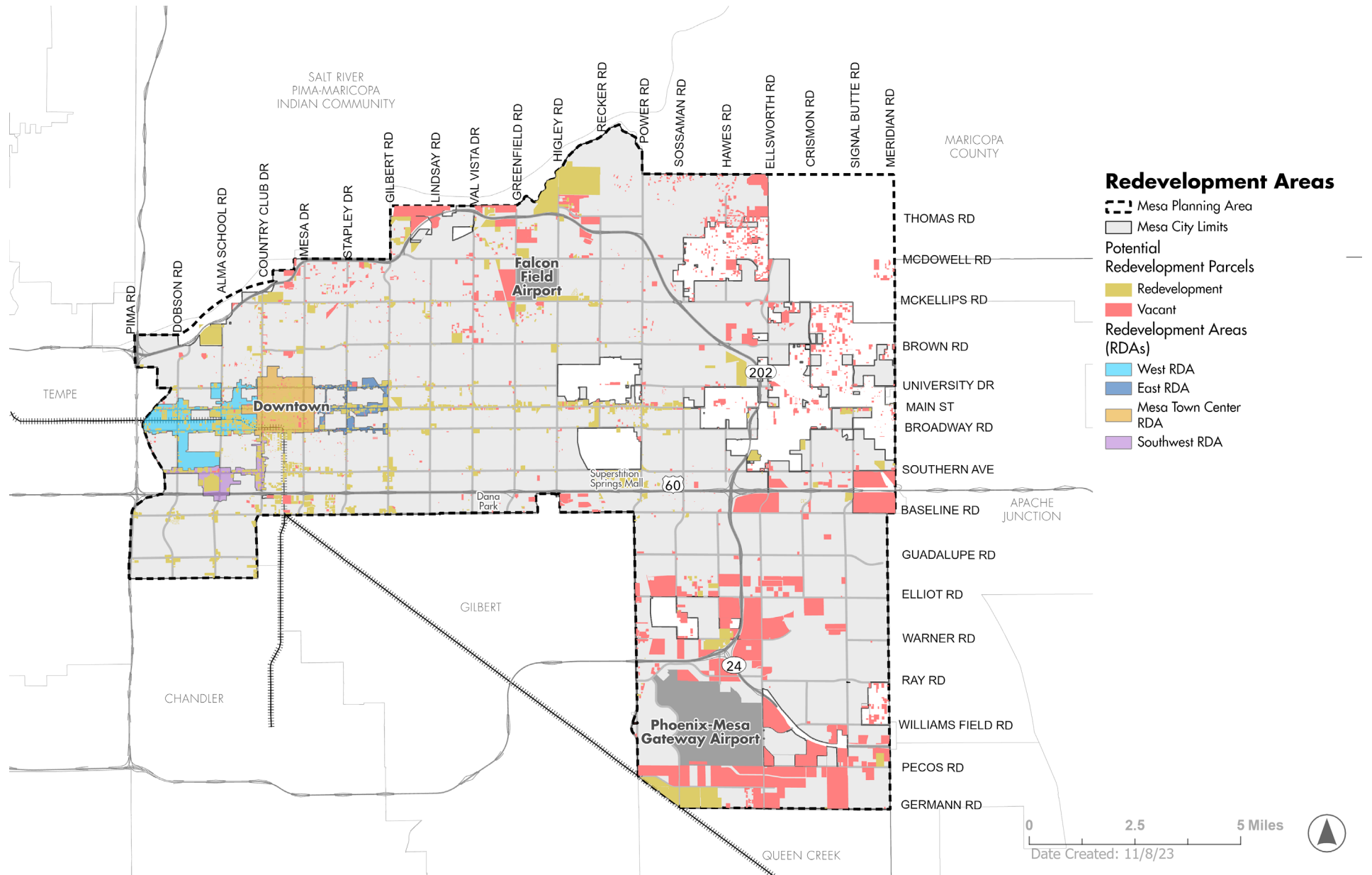
**2. MESA SOUTHWEST
REDEVELOPMENT AREA
PLAN - ADOPTED 2017**

**3. MESA EAST
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN
- ADOPTED 2017**

**4. MESA WEST
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN
- ADOPTED 2017**



Figure 16. Areas with Redevelopment Potential in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Mesa's Historic Property Register (MHPR) contains historic properties, landmarks, and districts that are protected under the Mesa Zoning Ordinance. The City has eight locally designated historic districts, 12 locally designated historic landmarks, and two locally recognized heritage districts.

These local designations are separate from the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); however, there is an overlap between national and locally designated properties and districts. In addition to the 12 locally designated historic landmarks, Mesa has 27 landmarks with a NRHP designation.

One of these historic landmarks is a culturally significant archaeological site which displays early Hohokam settlements and provides a unique window into Mesa's past. The Mesa Grande Cultural Park was purchased by the City in the 1980s to preserve its cultural value. The Park consists of the Grande Temple Mound, a 27-foot-tall earthen structure that spans the width and length of a football field. Today, the Park preserves around 4,500 feet of canals that gave Mesa its start as a prominent agricultural community. The canals represent work from both the Hohokam and LDS Pioneers, each at different points in time.

Did You Know?

**WITHIN THE CITY OF MESA
THERE ARE...**



**2 HERITAGE
NEIGHBORHOODS**



**8 LOCALLY
DESIGNATED
HISTORIC
DISTRICTS**



**12 LOCALLY
DESIGNATED
HISTORIC
LANDMARKS**



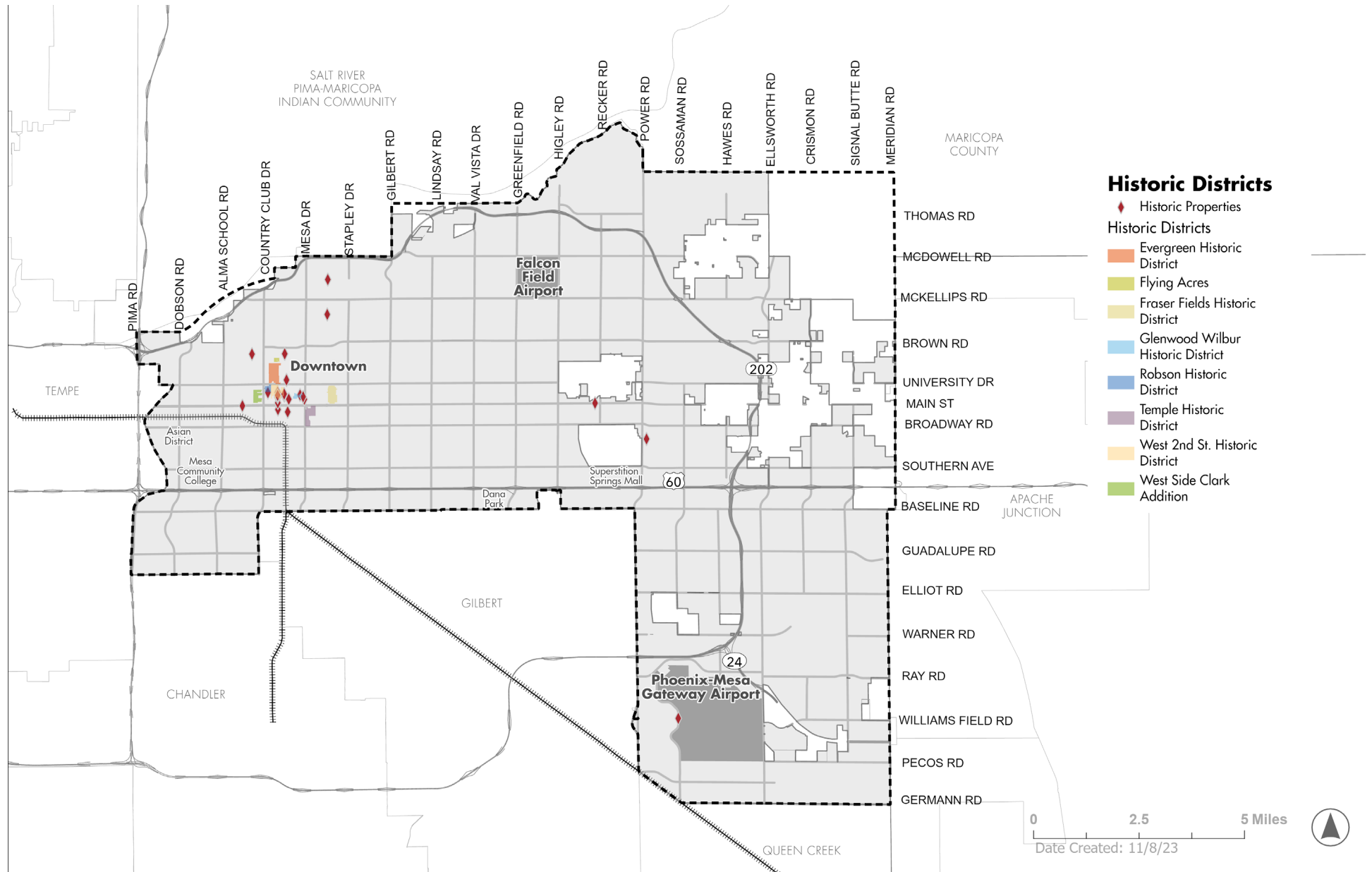
LOCALLY DESIGNATED HISTORIC LANDMARKS AND PROPERTIES

- ❑ Federal Building (MHPR) commonly known as The Post
- ❑ First United Methodist Church (MHPR)
- ❑ Fitch Farmhouse (MHPR)
- ❑ James A. Macdonald House (MHPR)
- ❑ Isley House (MHPR)
- ❑ Mesa Public Library/Information Technology Building (MHPR) commonly known as The Studios at Mesa City Center
- ❑ Mount Calvary Baptist Church (MHPR)
- ❑ Nile Theater (MHPR)
- ❑ Ramon Mendoza House (MHPR)

NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORIC LANDMARKS AND PROPERTIES

- ❑ Alhambra Hotel (NRHP)
- ❑ Alma Ward Meeting House (NRHP and MHPR)
- ❑ Alston House (NRHP)
- ❑ Angulo-Hostetter House (NRHP)
- ❑ Buckhorn Baths Motel and Mineral Wells (NRHP)
- ❑ Falcon Field WWII Aviation Hangars (NRHP)
- ❑ Irving School (NRHP and MHPR)
- ❑ Lehi School (NRHP)
- ❑ Mesa Grande Archaeological Site (NRHP)
- ❑ Mesa Journal-Tribune FHA Demonstration House (NRHP)
- ❑ Mesa Women's Club (NRHP)
- ❑ Park of the Canals (NRHP)
- ❑ Ponderosa II (NRHP and MHPR)
- ❑ Robert Scott House (NRHP)
- ❑ Serrine House (NRHP)
- ❑ Spangler/Wilbur House (NRHP)
- ❑ Strauch-Fuller House (NRHP)
- ❑ Williams Field Air Force Base - 7 Resources (NRHP)

Figure 17. Mesa Historic Districts and Landmarks



Source: City of Mesa



CIRCULATION & MOBILITY



ROAD NETWORK

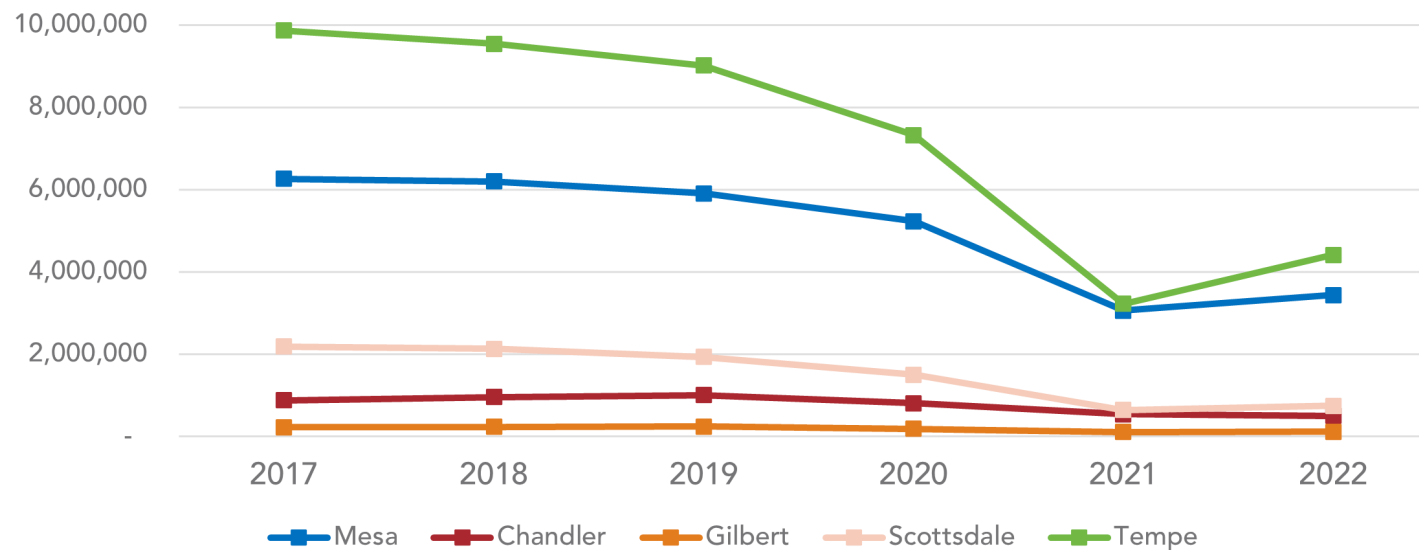
Mesa's transportation network is primarily comprised of a one-mile grid of arterial roadways, with collectors and local streets providing additional access to adjacent land uses and destinations. Approximately 300 miles of arterial roadways offer access to the regional freeway system, including US 60 (Superstition Freeway), Loop 101 (Price Freeway), and Loop 202 (Red Mountain and Santan Freeways). Functional classification of roadways in Mesa includes arterials, collectors, and local roadways.



PUBLIC TRANSIT

There are several distinct types of public transit available in Mesa, including circulator buses, standard local bus routes, express bus routes, and light rail. Valley Metro is the regional public transportation authority for the PMA and provides light rail, and local and express bus routes in Mesa. There are two BUZZ circulator routes, 14 Valley Metro local bus routes, five Valley Metro Express routes, and Valley Metro Light Rail stops. Additionally, there are multiple park-and-rides and transit centers throughout the City. Ridership generally decreased from 2017 to 2021; however, ridership increased by 12% from 2021 to 2022 which may be a sign that ridership is rebounding from the COVID-19 pandemic.

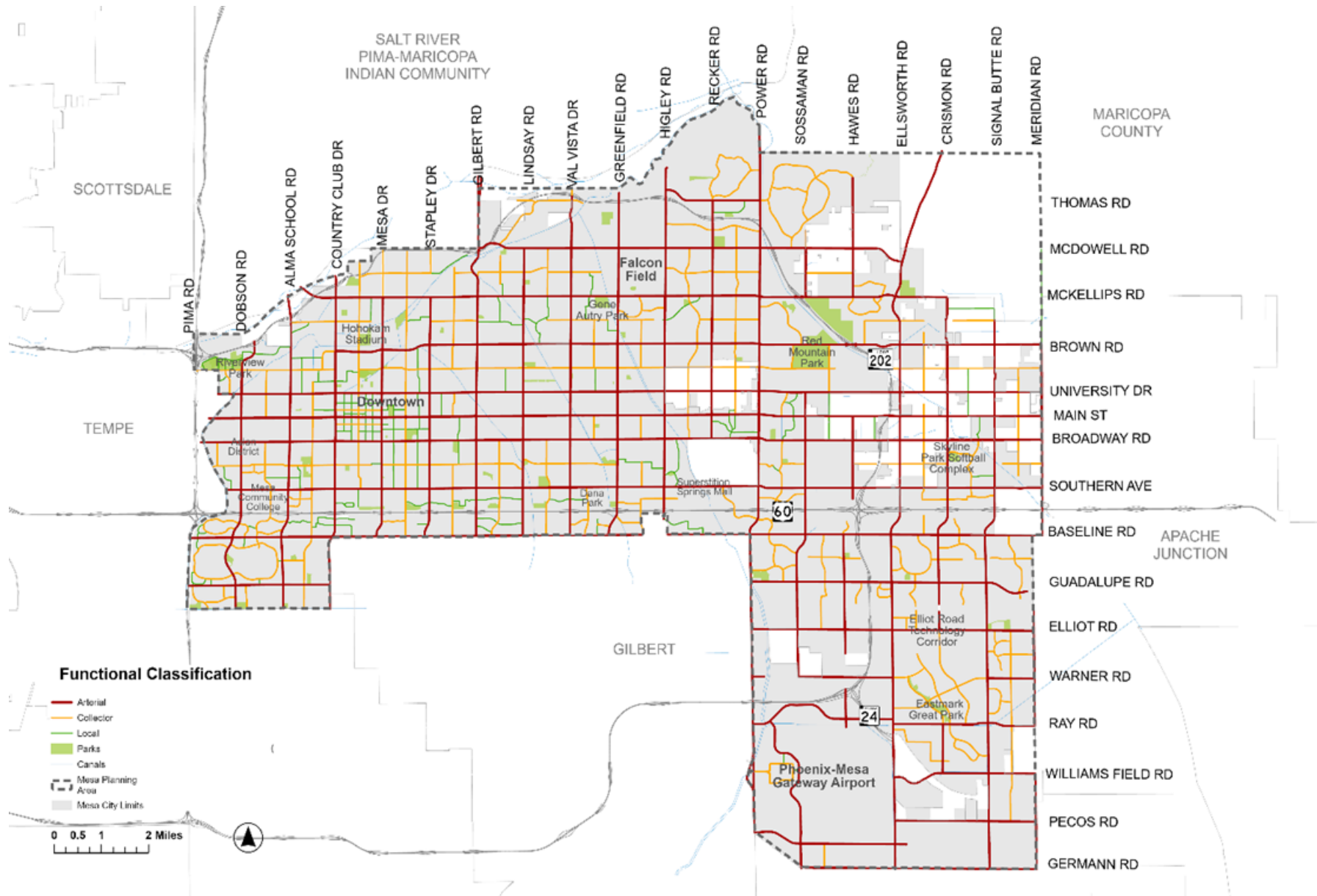
Figure 18. Annual Transit Ridership (2017-2022)



Source: Valley Metro

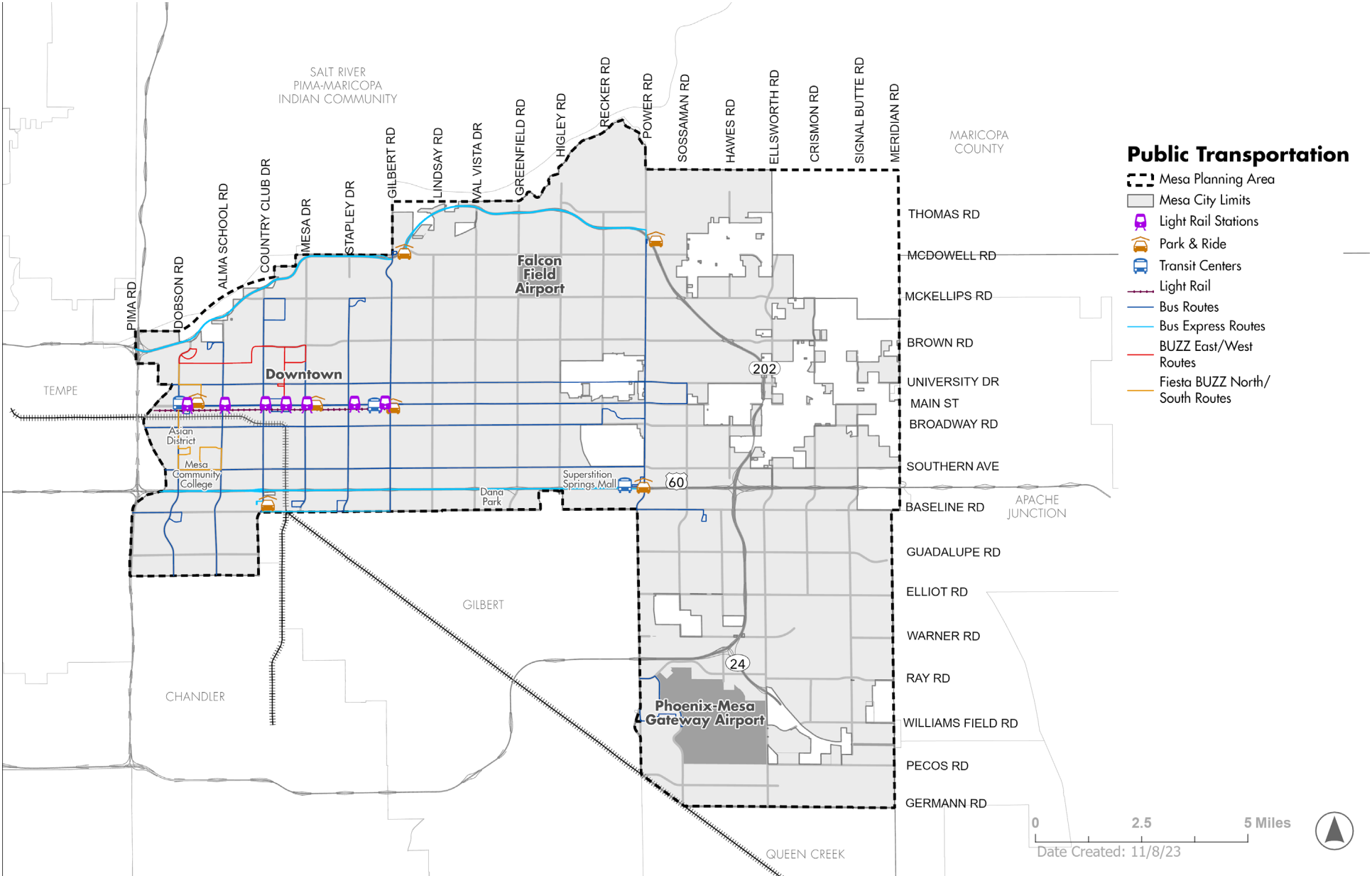
Tomorrow's Mesa 2050 General Plan, Existing Conditions Report

Figure 19. Functional Classification (2023)



Source: City of Mesa

Figure 20. Public Transit in Mesa



Source: Valley Metro



ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

In Mesa, pedestrians and cyclists have access to shared use paths and canal pathways throughout the City to connect them to their destinations. Most major roadways have sidewalks on both sides and crosswalks at signalized intersections.

Within the City there are approximately 17 miles of shared use paths, paved trails that are physically separate from motorized traffic. Currently 68% of all shared use paths run along canals, 83.4% of which are owned by the Salt River Project. In addition to shared use paths there are 1.6 miles of separated bike lanes, 270 miles of bike lanes, and 68 miles of shared lane bike routes.



AVIATION

Mesa has two airports within City limits, the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport (PMGA) in southeast Mesa and Falcon Field Airport in northeast Mesa. PMGA provides commercial air service, general aviation, and military uses. Five commercial airlines (Allegiant, Flair, Sun Country, Swoop, and WestJet) provide service from Mesa to over fifty destinations around the United States and Canada. PMGA had a total of 17,653 total operations (take-offs and landings) in 2022. Falcon Field is primarily a general aviation facility.



FREIGHT

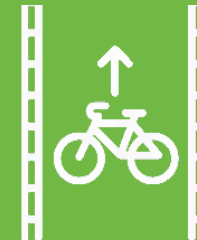
The Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) runs through portions of western Mesa, running parallel to Country Club Road before turning west north of Broadway Road. A portion of the UPRR also runs along the Mesa border near PMGA. There are 11 at-grade and two grade-separated railroad crossings within the City boundary.

Tomorrow's Mesa 2050 General Plan, Existing Conditions Report

 *Did You Know?*



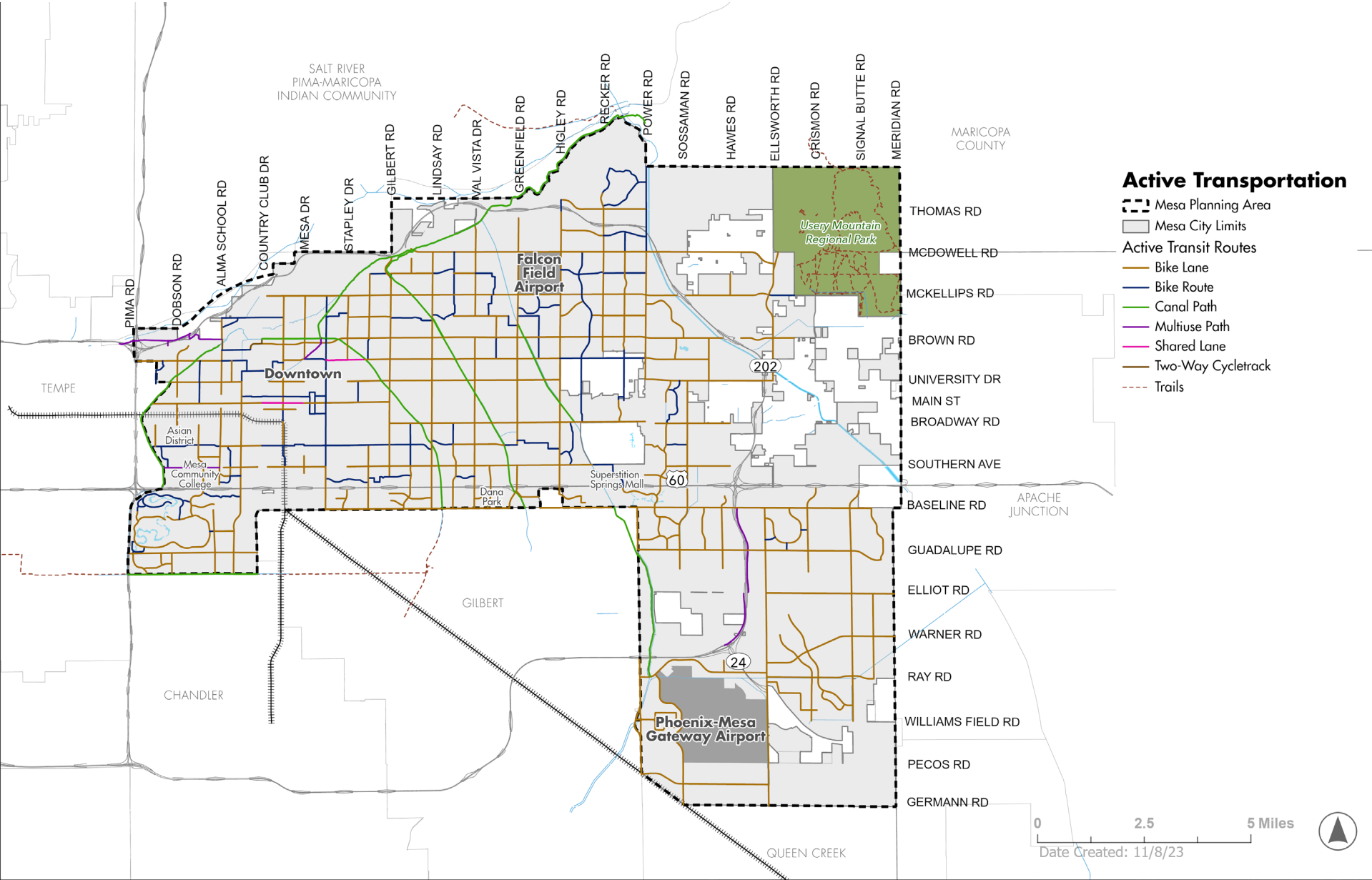
THERE WERE **27,744**
CRASHES IN MESA
BETWEEN 2017 AND
2021



THERE ARE
APPROXIMATELY
270 MILES OF BIKE
LANES IN MESA



Figure 21. Active Transportation in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa, 2023



VEHICLE OWNERSHIP

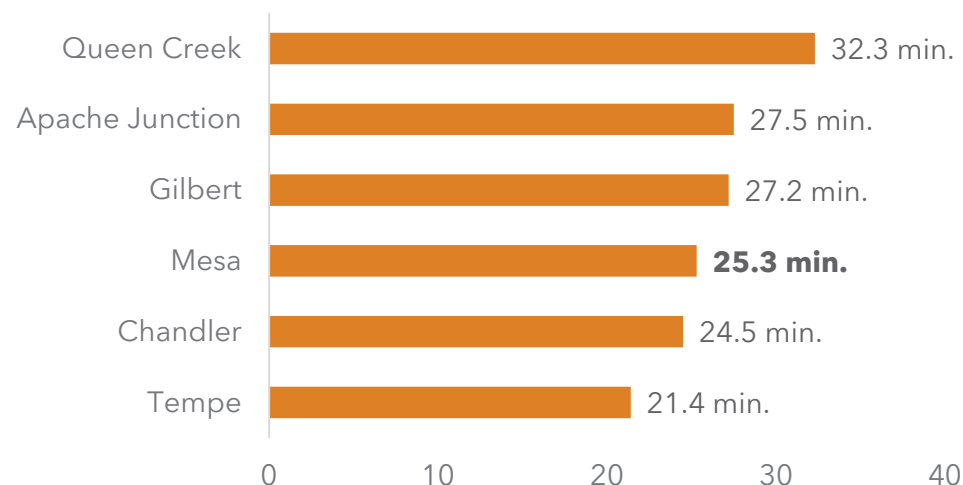
Within Mesa, 6% of households do not have access to a personal vehicle. More than 70% of households have access to multiple vehicles. Mesa residents most commonly use personal vehicles to commute to work, with 64% of commuters driving alone in their personal vehicles to work.



COMMUTE TIMES

Walking, cycling, and public transit are all uncommon modes of travel for Mesa commuters. The average commute time of Mesa residents is 25 minutes. Compared to surrounding cities, Mesa has a relatively average commute time. Tempe has the lowest commute time among adjacent cities at 21 minutes, and Queen Creek has the longest commute time at 32 minutes.

Figure 22. Average Commute Times



Source: US Census Bureau, 2017 - 2021 ACS 5-Year Estimates

 *Did You Know?*



**THE AVERAGE
COMMUTE TIME
BY CAR IN MESA IS 25
MINUTES**



**ABOUT 6% OF
RESIDENTS DO NOT
HAVE A PERSONAL
VEHICLE**

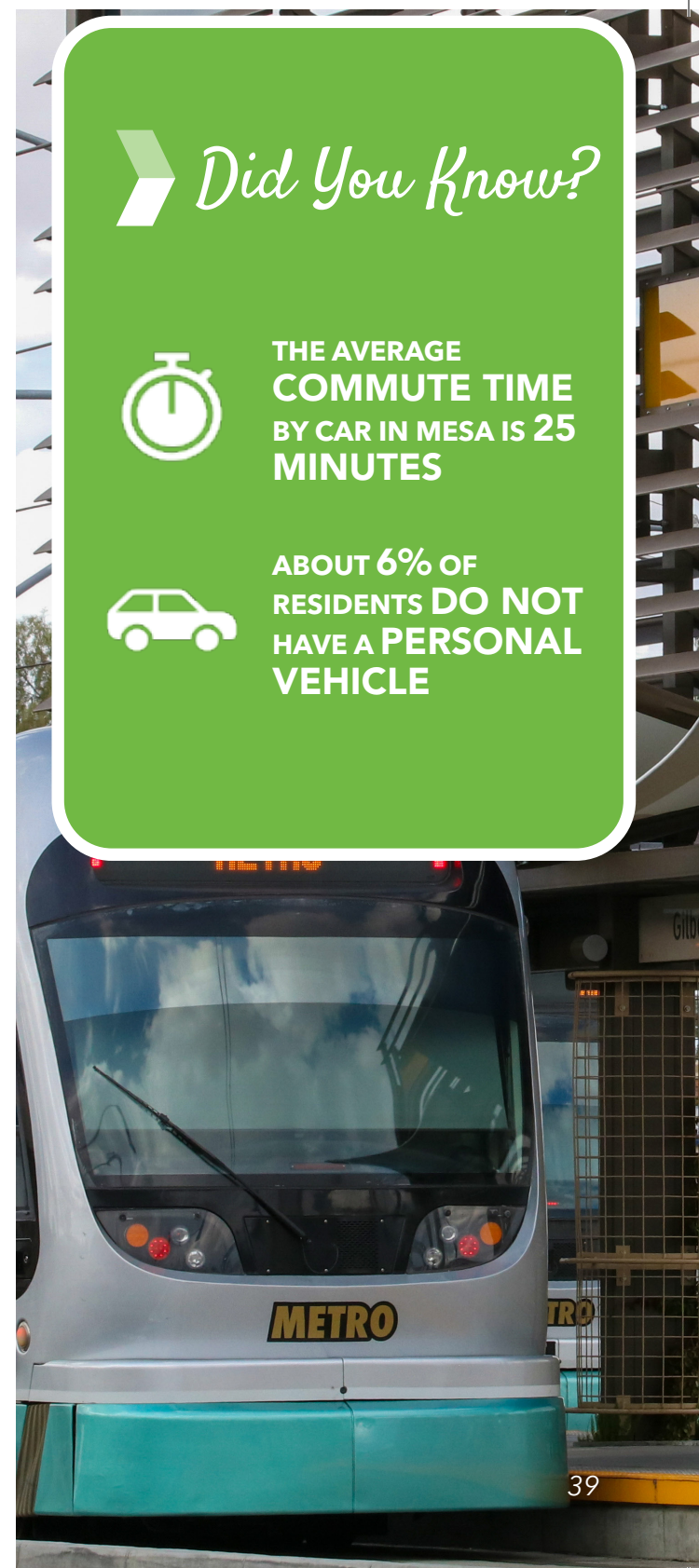




Table 5. Mesa Commute Times

	WEEKDAY							WEEKEND						
	DRIVE	TRANSIT	BIKE	WALK	OTHER	AVG. TRAVEL DISTANCE	AVG. TRAVEL TIME	DRIVE	TRANSIT	BIKE	WALK	OTHER	AVG. TRAVEL DISTANCE	AVG. TRAVEL TIME
Getting to Work	94%	0.5%	0.5%	3.5%	1.5%	25 mi.	16 min.	95%	0.5%	0.5%	2.5%	1.5%	23 mi.	17 min.
Getting to School	77%	0.5%	5.5%	16%	1%	8 mi.	19 min.	94.5%	0.5%	0.5%	1.5%	3%	20 mi.	31 min.
Travel for Daily Needs	85.5%	0.5%	1%	11.5%	1.5%	10 mi.	16 min.	87%	0.5%	0.5%	10%	2%	10 mi.	15 min.
Getting Outside	89.5%	0.5%	1%	7.5%	2.5%	11 mi.	17 min.	93%	0.5%	1%	4%	2.5%	11 mi.	17 min.



TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Of the 477 signalized intersections in Mesa, only five are operating under congested conditions, with a Level of Service (LOS) E or worse. 7.1 miles of arterial roadway segments are congested. Congestion is most common near Downtown Mesa and Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport (PMGA) and is typically worse in the afternoon than in the morning.



TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

Between 2017 and 2021, there were approximately 28,000 crashes within the City of Mesa, with a 12% increase in crashes from 2020 to 2021. These crashes include all types: vehicular-vehicular, vehicular-bicycle, and vehicular-pedestrian. Generally, vehicle to vehicle crashes and vehicle to bicycle crashes declined from 2017 to 2020 but increased again in 2021. Vehicle to pedestrian crashes vary from year to year, with 80 crashes in 2021. Dobson Road, from Main Street to US 60; University Drive, from Higley Road to Nassau Street; and Higley Road, from Broadway Road to McKellips Road, are corridors that have a high number of crashes resulting in serious injury.



ITS INFRASTRUCTURE

Mesa's transportation system incorporates innovative technologies, including intelligent transportation systems (ITS) infrastructure, micromobility, and electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure. The City has been actively implementing fiber optic and wireless connectivity to provide smart city functions, with 110 miles of fiber optic cable currently in use. These fiber optic networks will help support other smart city projects, including LED Light Smart Nodes and parking sensors to assist transportation functions. The LED Light Smart Nodes will provide energy savings, as they are self-adjusting based on vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Parking sensors are currently being used in a pilot lot, allowing drivers to see how full lots are, reducing stress, distractions, and traffic.



ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE

The City of Mesa is in the process of preparing its Community Electric Vehicle (EV) Adoption Master Plan to accelerate the pace of EV adoption. This Plan will aid the City in policy and infrastructure investment decision-making. There are currently 35 EV charging station locations across the City and over 2,300 EVs owned by Mesa residents.

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

A photograph of the Banner Desert Medical Center building, a large multi-story structure with a yellow and red facade. The building has many windows and a prominent glass section on the right. In the foreground, there is a green lawn, a road, and some landscaping including trees and bushes. A sign on the building reads "Banner Desert Medical Center". A red "AMBULANCE" sign is visible on the building's facade. A green graphic with white dots is on the left side of the image.

HEALTHCARE & EDUCATION



HEALTHCARE

Mesa is home to a wide array of general and specialty hospitals, along with the nation's largest medical simulation training center and higher education institutions focused on healthcare.

Banner Health is Mesa's second-largest employer, with 6,826 employees across a number of facilities. Mesa is also one of the few cities in Maricopa County that offers a continuum of healthcare services, including specialty hospitals in heart health, orthopedics, and full-service pediatrics.

Mesa is well known for its wide array of healthcare facilities, but not all residents have access for a variety of reasons, including lack of health insurance. For example, 17% of Mesa's population under 65 were uninsured in 2020, compared to 9.8% nationally. Access to healthcare is an important metric for the health and resilience of a community, and identifying barriers to medical treatment can help the City identify ways to respond through partnerships and community programs, as it has done through a partnership with the National League of Cities (NLC). The City and NLC have offered a prescription discount card program, allowing residents to receive a discount on commonly prescribed medications.

Did You Know?



MESA HAS 4 MAJOR HOSPITALS

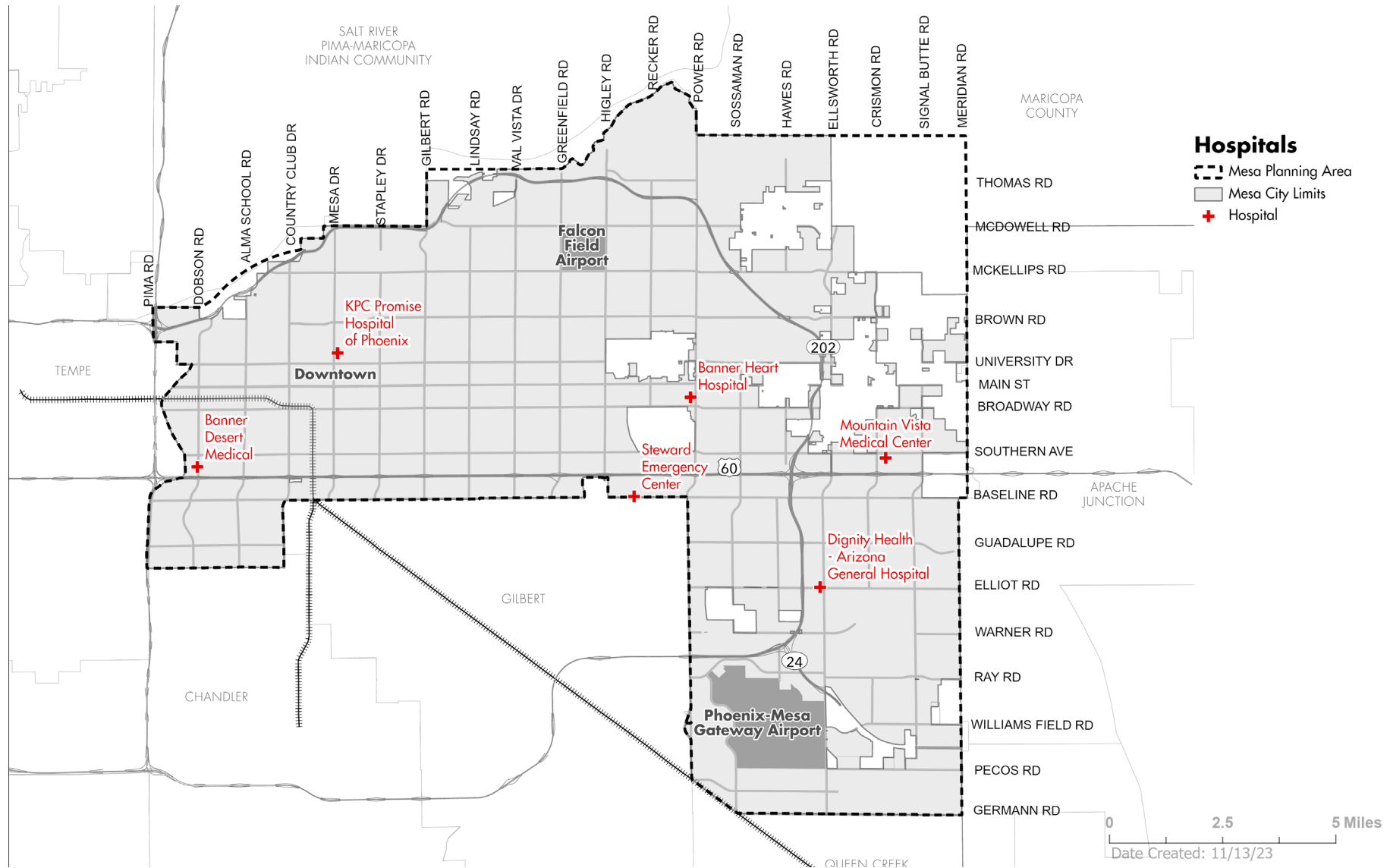


THERE ARE 2,000 HOSPITAL BEDS IN MESA'S HOSPITALS



MESA HAD 10,245 HEALTHCARE/ BIOSCIENCE GRADUATES IN 2022

Figure 23. Hospitals in Mesa



Source: Maricopa Association of Governments



EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

Mesa Public Schools (MPS) is the largest school district in the State for elementary and secondary education, with more than 64,500 enrolled students. The MPS district has 23 "A" ranked schools and six "A+" ranked schools. Continued investment in teachers' salaries and working conditions are some of the initiatives Mesa is pursuing and continuing to advance. A continued look at the reasons for teacher shortages and lower enrollment will be beneficial for Mesa's future in education.



CHALLENGES IN EDUCATION

The retention and recruitment of teachers in Arizona is a statewide issue that has been impacting the Mesa education system since 2016.

The Arizona School Personnel Administrators Association's latest report found that over 25% of teacher vacancies across the state this year remain unfilled, while 44% of the vacancies are filled by teachers who do not meet the state's standard certification requirements. The 2023 Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and data analyst of Mesa Public Schools stated that the primary reason for the shortage is low salaries.



ENROLLMENT

MPS has seen a decline in elementary school (K-12) enrollment since 2019. The greatest decline was 17% at the kindergarten level. This is similar to other school districts in the Valley, such as Gilbert Unified School District and Scottsdale Unified School District who saw a 4% and 6% decline in enrollment, respectively.

Reduced enrollment rates can negatively impact schools, especially financially, as schools typically receive funding based on the number of students who attend. Funding reductions can have cross-cutting impacts, including staff layoffs, fewer extracurriculars and activities for students, and can increase strain on teachers through larger class sizes.



Did You Know?

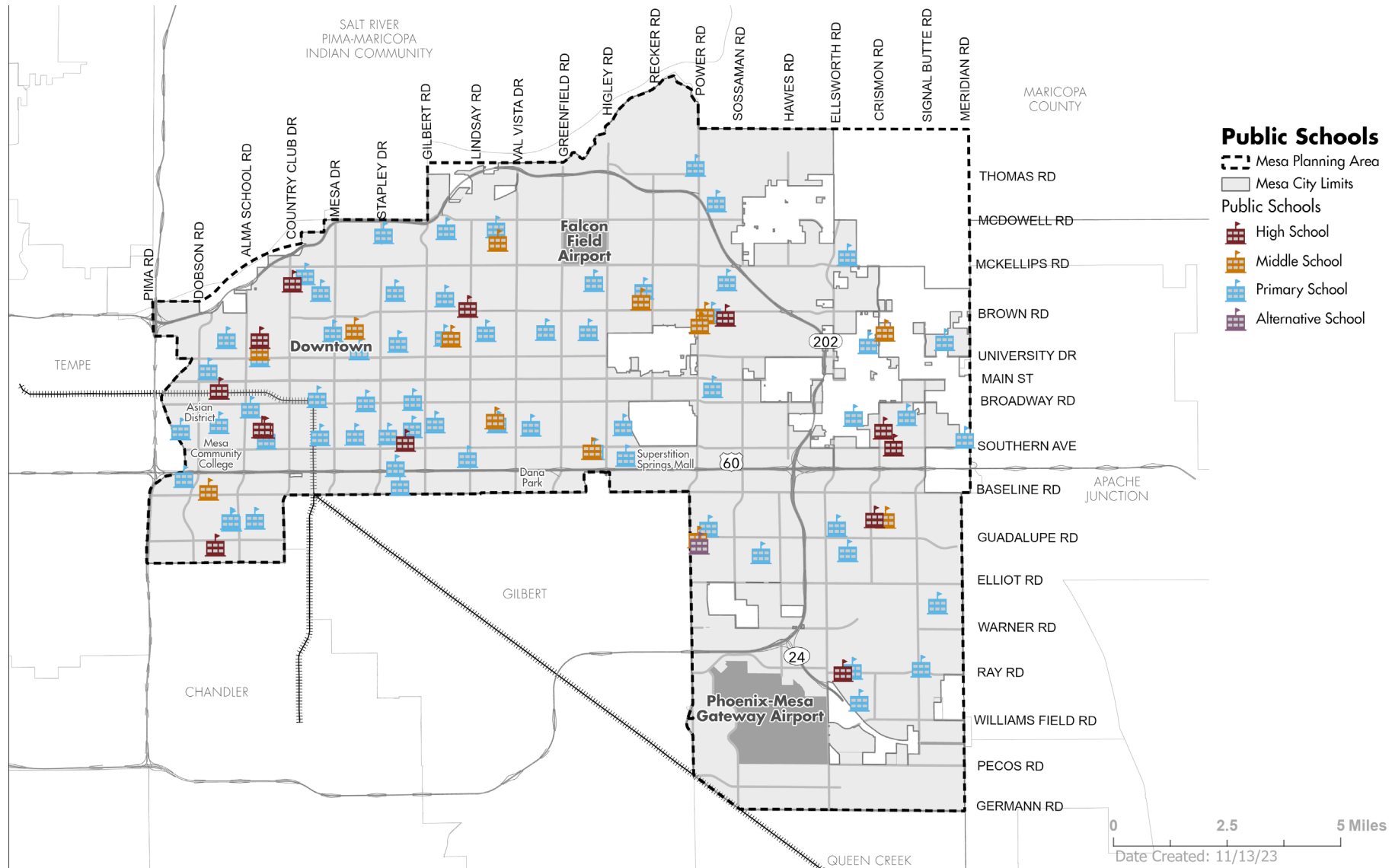


THERE ARE 64,500 STUDENTS IN THE MESA PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, MAKING IT THE LARGEST IN THE STATE



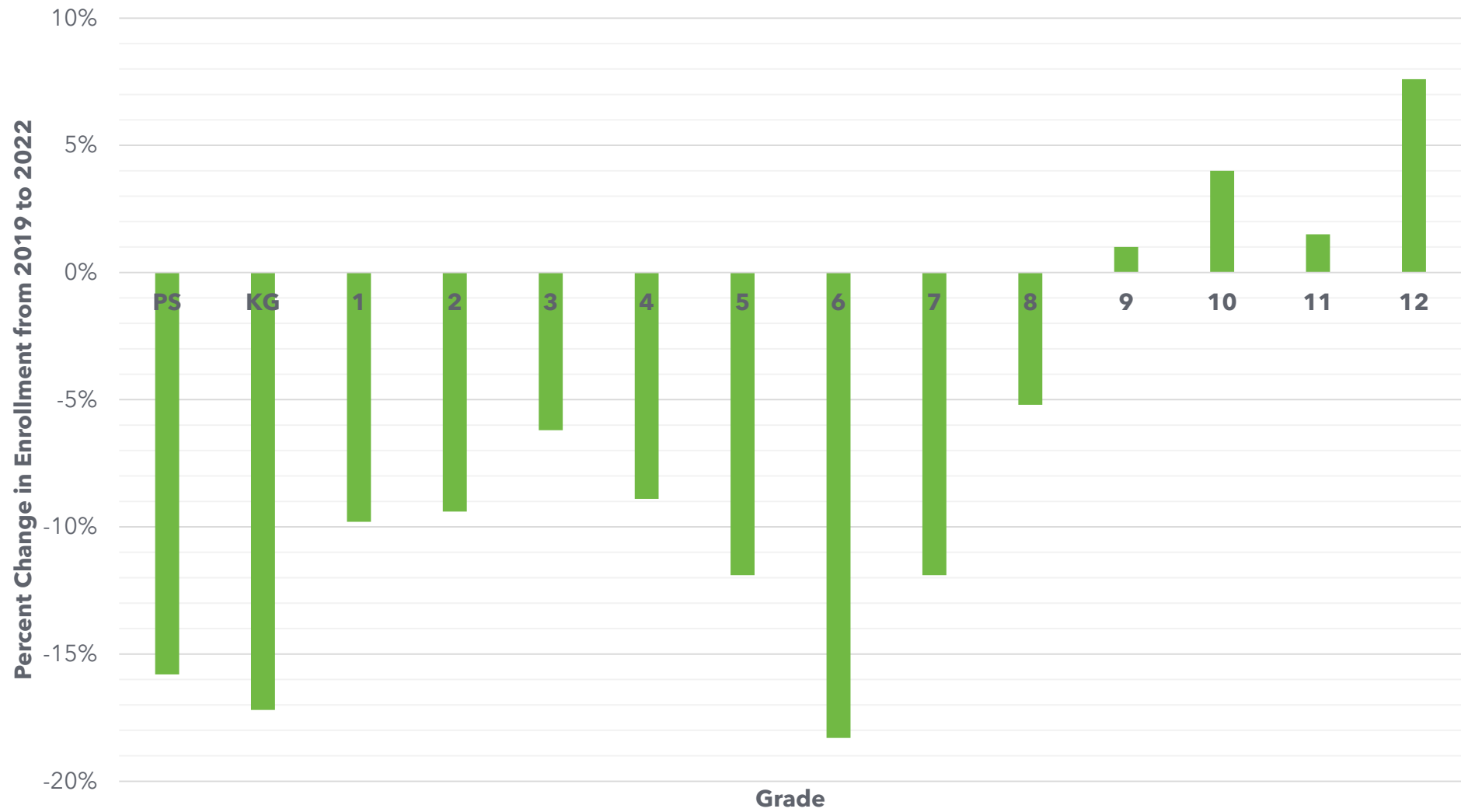
THERE ARE OVER 40,000 STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Figure 24. Public Schools in Mesa



Source: Maricopa Association of Governments, March 2023

Figure 25. District Enrollment, Three-Year Change



Source: 12 News, 2022

A man in a light blue short-sleeved shirt and safety glasses is working on a large jet engine. He is looking up at the engine, which is mounted on a white aircraft. The engine is complex, with many pipes, wires, and a large yellow section. The background shows a large hangar with white structural beams and lights. A green diagonal banner with white dots is on the left side of the image.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



EMPLOYMENT

Mesa has a strong employment base with industries that employ 159,000 individuals. However, more residents leave the City than enter the City each day for employment. The City currently has around 0.25 jobs per capita. In comparison, Maricopa County has 0.4 jobs per capita. Based on 2013 5-Year ACS Estimates, the City's jobs per capita has decreased from its 2013 value at 0.4 jobs per capita.



KEY INDUSTRIES

There are approximately 6,878 businesses operating in Mesa with five or more employees. Of those businesses, the top industries are healthcare, employing 27,760 people, followed by manufacturing with 14,490 employees, finance with 9,280 employees, and aerospace with 7,400 employees. Mesa Public Schools is the single largest employer in Mesa with 7,730 employees.



WAGES

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, wages in the Phoenix MSA increased from 2021 to 2022, although since early 2023, wages have declined similar to a nation-wide trend. In May of 2023, the average hourly wage in the Phoenix MSA was \$28.86, which is just over \$60,000 per year, calculated at 40 hours per week.



Did You Know?



BUSINESSES IN MESA EMPLOY ABOUT 159,000 EMPLOYEES



OFFICES ARE SEEING LESS OCCUPANCY AS 24.3% OF THEM WERE VACANT IN 2023



SMALL BUSINESS

Small businesses in Mesa benefit from a number of programs and assistance that allow them to build business competency, increase competitiveness, and promote resiliency. The Mesa Business Builder (MBB) Small Business Assistance Program provides professional consulting, bootcamps, webinars, and service partnerships to help entrepreneurs grow their businesses.

In the City of Mesa Office of Economic Development's Annual Report (2022-2023), they reported assisting 118 businesses through the MBB, providing 28 businesses with new websites and 2,131 hours of one-on-one assistance. The City also has the Mesa HUUB, a digital platform that further assists small businesses with training and networking. The HUUB increased its user base by 60% from the previous year, ending fiscal year 2022-2023 at 732 users.

Table 6. Key Industries in Mesa

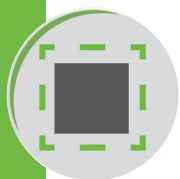
KEY INDUSTRY	# OF EMPLOYEES
Aerospace	7,720
Finance	9,300
Health Care	29,610
Information Technology	4,070
Manufacturing	16,620
Warehouse and Distribution	8,440

Source: 2022 Arizona COG/MPO Employer Database, MAG

Table 7. Top Employers in Mesa

EMPLOYER NAME	# OF EMPLOYEES	CLUSTER
Mesa Unified School District 4	7,600	Education
Banner Health	6,120	Health Care
City of Mesa	4,410	Government, Social, & Advocacy Services
The Boeing Company	3,840	High Tech Manufacturing & Development
Walmart	3,040	Retail
Maricopa County Community College District	1,810	Education
Dexcom	1,750	High Tech Manufacturing & Development
DriveTime Automotive Group	1,450	Retail
Fry's Food Stores	1,390	Retail
Home Depot	1,250	Retail
Gilbert Unified School District 41	1,080	Education
Steward Health Care	950	Health Care
Maricopa County	930	Government, Social, & Advocacy Services
Empire Southwest	890	Transportation & Distribution

Source: 2022 Arizona COG/MPO Employer Database, MAG
 Note: Only includes business locations with 5+ employees, and jobs 10+ rounded to nearest 10.



BUSINESS DISTRICTS

The City of Mesa recognizes and promotes six business districts within the City that have the necessary infrastructure and attributes to help businesses succeed. Each district has a unique set of qualities that are especially suited for specific industry segments and business needs. Mesa's six business districts are:

- Asian District
- Mesa Riverview
- Downtown Mesa
- Fiesta District
- Falcon District
- Mesa Gateway District

Did You Know?



THE RIVERVIEW DISTRICT HAS 2 PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL STADIUMS THAT GENERATE \$700 MILLION IN REVENUE PER YEAR



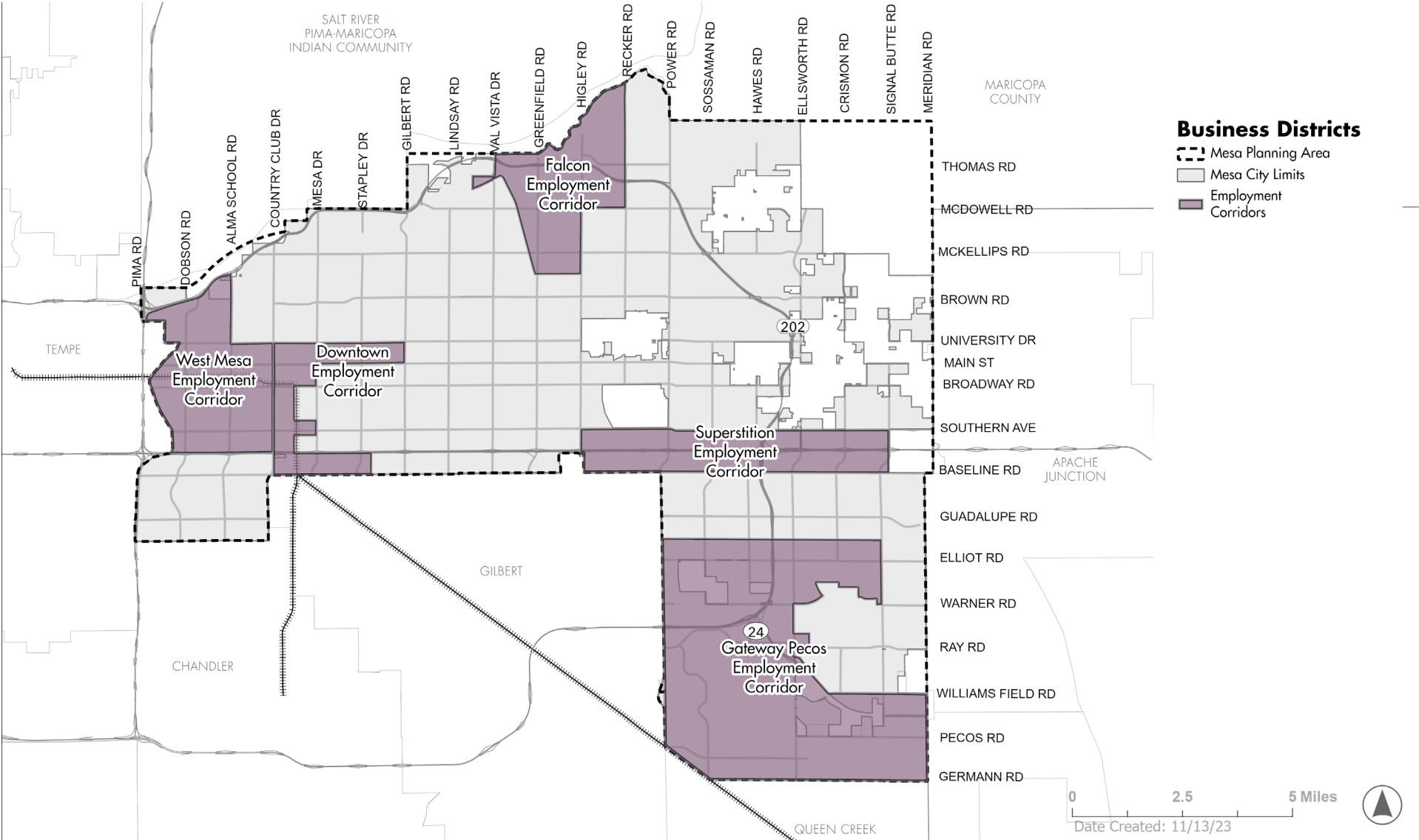
THE ASIAN DISTRICT HAS OVER 70 ASIAN-RELATED BUSINESSES



NEARLY \$900 MILLION HAS BEEN INVESTED IN THE FIESTA DISTRICT IN THE PAST 5 YEARS



Figure 26. Business Districts in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa

THIS PAGE HAS BEEN INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

A photograph of a swimming pool competition. In the foreground, a swimmer in a green cap is in the water, creating a large splash. Other swimmers are visible in the background lanes. The pool is divided by yellow and black lane lines. On the pool deck, a large crowd of spectators is gathered, some standing under a large green umbrella. A scoreboard is visible on the left side of the pool deck, displaying event, lane, place, and time. Various banners and flags are strung across the pool deck. The text "PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES" is overlaid in large, white, outlined letters on the right side of the image.

PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES



PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Mesa has an extensive park, recreation, and open space system with 2,500 acres of parkland across 205 parks. Parks and recreation facilities feature playgrounds, athletic fields, recreation centers, trails, splash pads, stadiums, a championship golf course, aquatic centers, and more.

Mesa has five indoor recreation facilities, with the largest and highest amenity facility being the Red Mountain Center, a multi-generational facility in East Mesa. The recreation system also includes 21 sports complexes, fields, and recreation courts; nine aquatic facilities; and two spring training baseball stadiums. In all, the Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities Department maintains more than nine million square feet of recreational land.



ACCESS TO PARKS

Mesa's residents have ample access to private and public open space with 95% of residents located within a 10-minute walk of an outdoor recreation and 69% of residents within walking distance to five recreational components.

Did You Know?



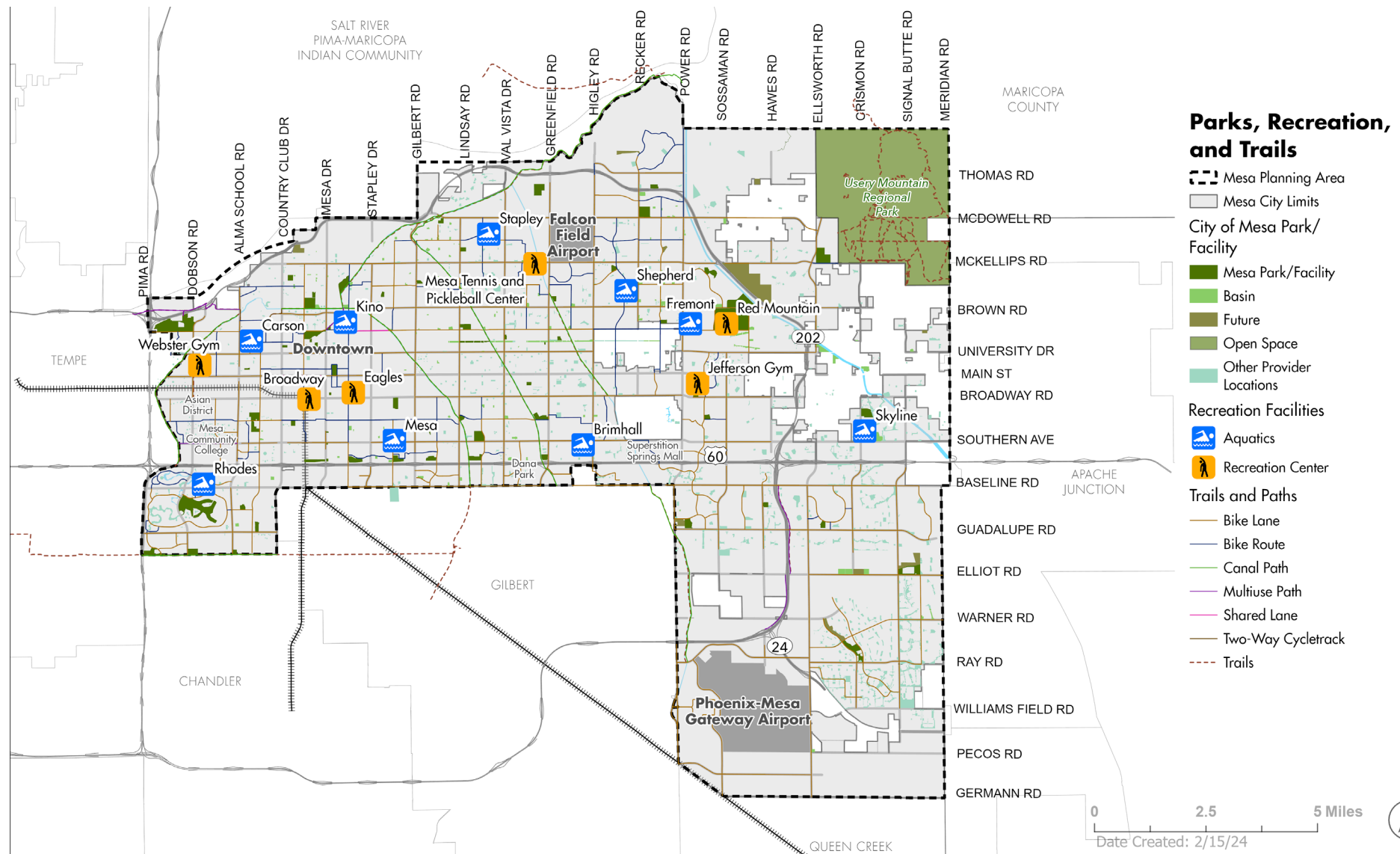
81% OF PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES PROGRAM SPOTS ARE FILLED



AN AVERAGE OF 25,000 RESIDENTS PARTICIPATE IN PRCF PROGRAMS A YEAR



Figure 27. Parks, Recreation, and Trails in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa



PARK ACCESSIBILITY

In 2019, Mesa was the first city in the nation to be designated by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES) as an Autism Certified City. The year-long certification process included educational training, knowledge assessments of common behaviors, and sensory considerations associated with autism spectrum disorder. More than 4,000 community members, representing 60 businesses and organizations, and more than 500 Mesa Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities employees completed an autism training program. These numbers represent over 80% of guest-facing staff that are trained and certified in the field of autism to serve individuals and their families.



RECREATION PROGRAMS

Mesa also provides a diverse range of recreational opportunities, including but not limited to soccer, baseball, softball, flag football, kickball, disc golf, lacrosse, tennis, swimming, springboard diving, water polo, artistic swimming, and more.

The City of Mesa tracks participation across multiple programs, including adaptive, aquatics, general enrollment, school break, and sports. In the fall of 2019, aquatics and sports had the highest levels of enrollment and brought in over \$700,000 in revenue. The City also tracks drop-in use across its various recreation and aquatic facilities. In the fall of 2019, the Red Mountain Center had the highest drop-in use at 139,136 visits, accounting for 46.5% of all drop-in visits across facilities. The next highest drop-in rate was at the Skyline Aquatic Center, which had 33,400 visits.



Did You Know?



**IN 2022, 172,973
PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED IN
111 COMMUNITY
EVENTS HOSTED
BY THE PARKS
AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT**



**10,000 RESIDENTS
LEARNED WATER
SAFETY THROUGH
THE CITY'S AQUATIC
PROGRAMS IN 2022**

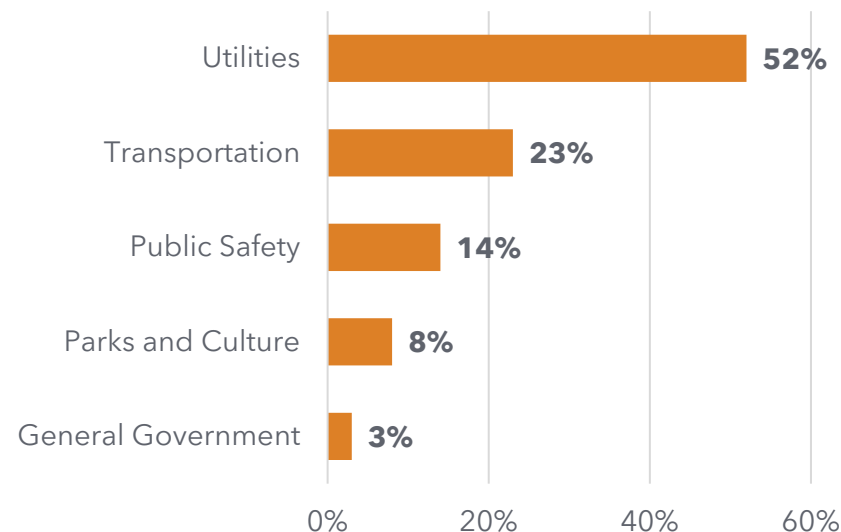


CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mesa's five-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) provides a roadmap for the City to track and prioritize its public facility and infrastructure needs. Projects are typically long-term in nature and financed over time. The City prioritizes projects based on how they meet City goals, including financial feasibility, public health, and safety; prevent or reduce future improvement costs; provide services to developed areas lacking full service; and promote development.

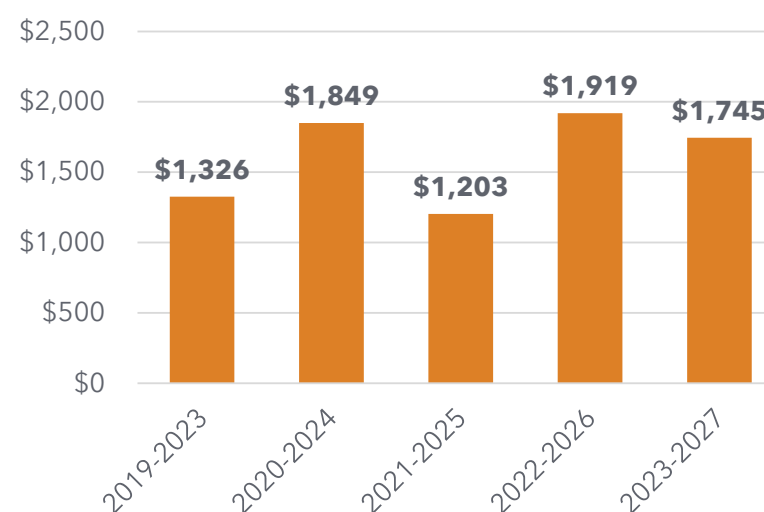
CIP projects are funded with operating revenues and bonds and include the development of new libraries, parks, museums, public safety facilities, shared-use paths and street improvements, storm sewers, water treatment plants, and more. Figures 28 and 29 show that the City is primarily working on utilities improvements and that funding for the CIP projects has remained relatively stable over the past four years. Currently, over \$1B of CIP funding is designated for utility improvements. Utility CIP projects cover a range of needs, including cooling, electric grid improvements, replacement of aging natural gas infrastructure, and water and wastewater enhancements.

Figure 28. Five-Year CIP by Category



Source: City of Mesa 2024-2028 CIP

Figure 29. Five-Year History for CIP (in Millions)



Source: City of Mesa 2024-2028 CIP



FIRE AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Mesa has 21 existing fire stations, which provide extensive coverage of the City, serving a population of more than a half-million residents over an area of 133 square miles. Mesa Fire and Medical has 475 sworn personnel and 190 civilian personnel in support staff positions.



LAW ENFORCEMENT

The City of Mesa Police Department operates four police stations across four divisions: Central, Fiesta, Red Mountain, and Superstition. The Central Police division serves 64,187 residents across just over 12 square miles. The Fiesta Police division serves 105,280 residents over nearly 16 square miles. The Red Mountain Police division serves 142,697 residents over almost 40 square miles. The Superstition Police division serves the largest population and area at 184,738 people and 72 square miles.

Did You Know?

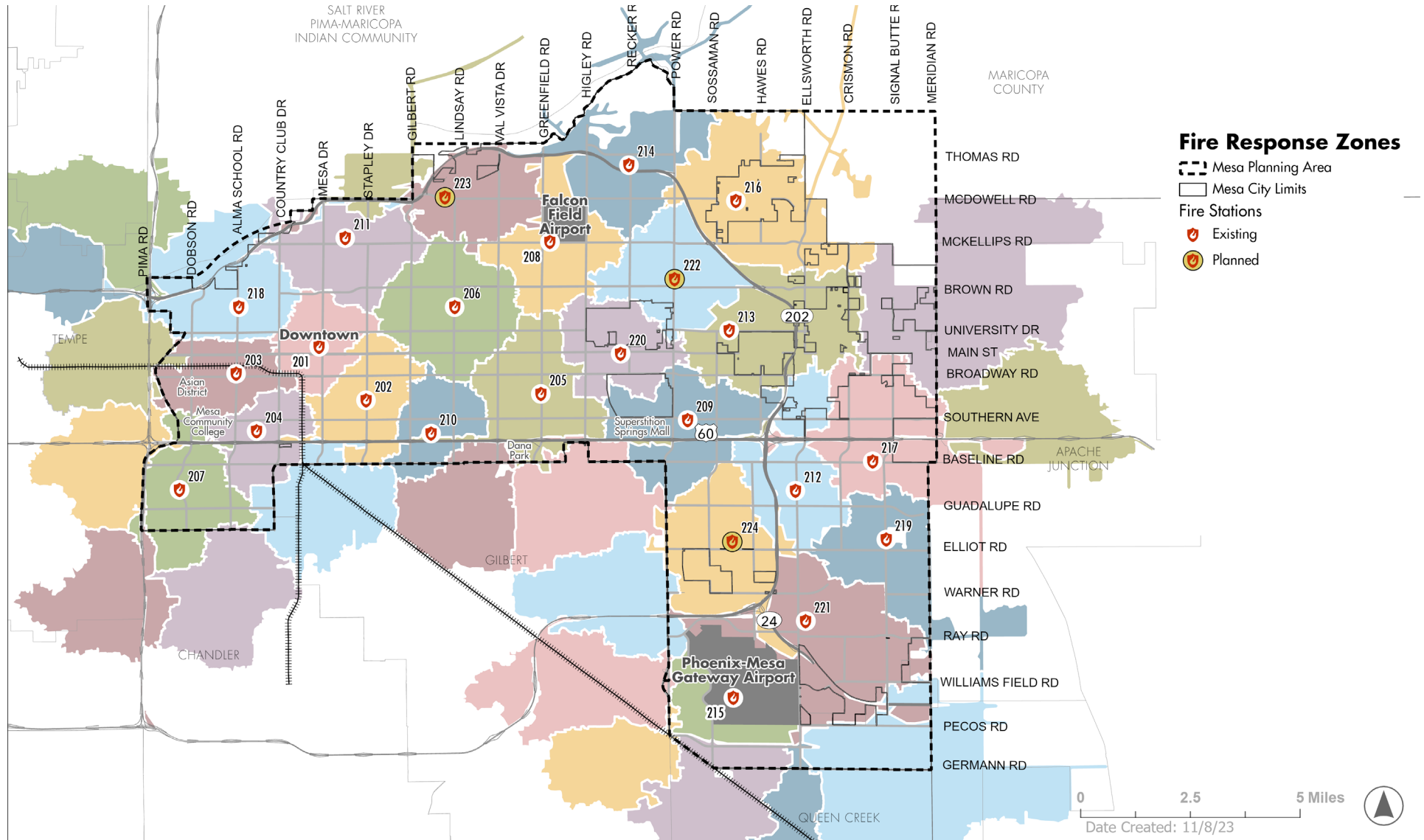


ACCORDING TO A
2021 COMMUNITY
SURVEY **65% OF
RESPONDENTS
HAD A POSITIVE
EXPERIENCE WITH
MESA POLICE**



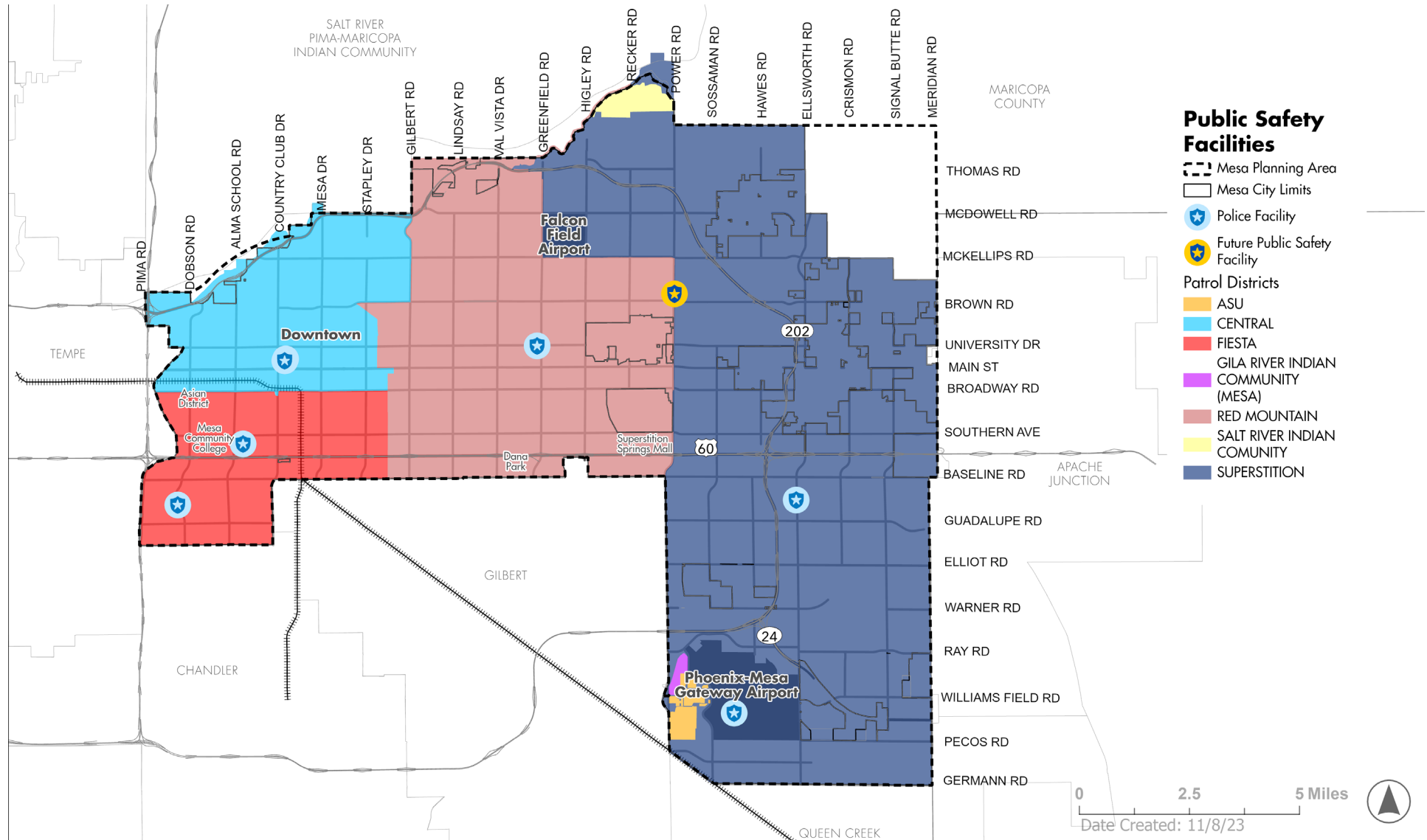
MESA'S FIRE CHIEF WAS
THE **1ST FEMALE**
TO RECEIVE THE
**METROPOLITAN
FIRE CHIEF OF THE
YEAR AWARD**

Figure 30. Fire Services in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa

Figure 31. Public Safety Facilities in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa



ELECTRIC SERVICES

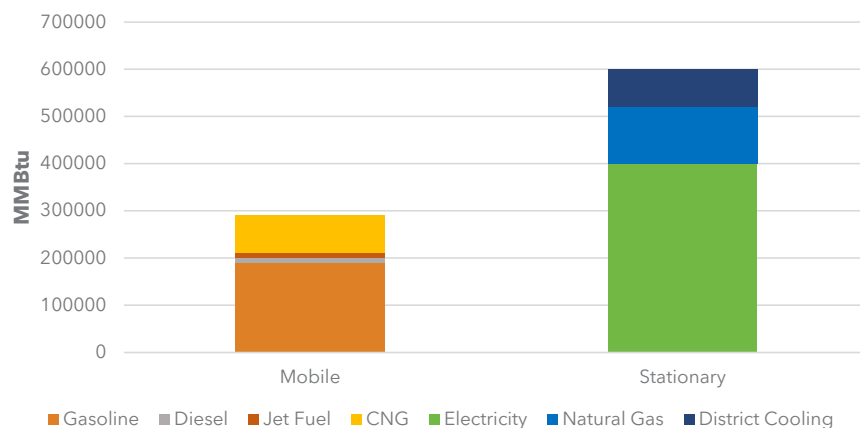
Electricity in Mesa is provided by two sources: City of Mesa Electric and Salt River Project (SRP). City of Mesa provides electricity to more than 17,500 homes and businesses in approximately 5.5 square miles centered around and including downtown. The remainder of the City is served by the Salt River Project (SRP).



NATURAL GAS

Natural gas service is provided by the City of Mesa, Southwest Gas, and Magma. The City provides service in the western and central areas of the City and Southwest Gas provides service in the east and southeast areas. Southwest Gas and the City of Mesa provide joint service in various locations, including along Southern Avenue, from Center Street to Greenfield Road. The City of Mesa also provides joint service with Magma in the far southeast portions of the City. Natural gas prices for the City have been steadily increasing since January 2023. In June 2023, natural gas prices were \$25.55/Mcf, which was 27% greater than the nationwide average.

Figure 32. Current Energy Use within the City of Mesa



Source: Mesa Climate Action Plan

Tomorrow's Mesa 2050 General Plan, Existing Conditions Report

Did You Know?



THE CITY HAS
**2 SOURCES OF
NATURAL GAS**
TRANSPORTED BY
**1,385 MILES OF
GAS MAINS**



**PEAK ENERGY
DEMAND IS FROM
JUNE THROUGH
SEPTEMBER**





WATER AND WASTEWATER

As a desert city, water infrastructure is critical to the continued growth of Mesa. The City provides water and wastewater services for the entirety of the City through the Water Resources Department. The City's water supply comes from a mix of water sources, including the Salt River, Colorado River (via the Central Arizona Project (CAP) canal), and well water.

Mesa's water resources are often described as either "On-Project" or "Off-Project" resources. On-Project resources are within the boundaries of the Salt River Project (SRP), and Off-Project resources are outside. Water from SRP can only be used within the On-Project boundary. In 2022, On-Project water was 42% of total water use, which is down from 50% in 2011, showing that much of the growth in Mesa's water needs has been outside of the SRP boundary.



Did You Know?

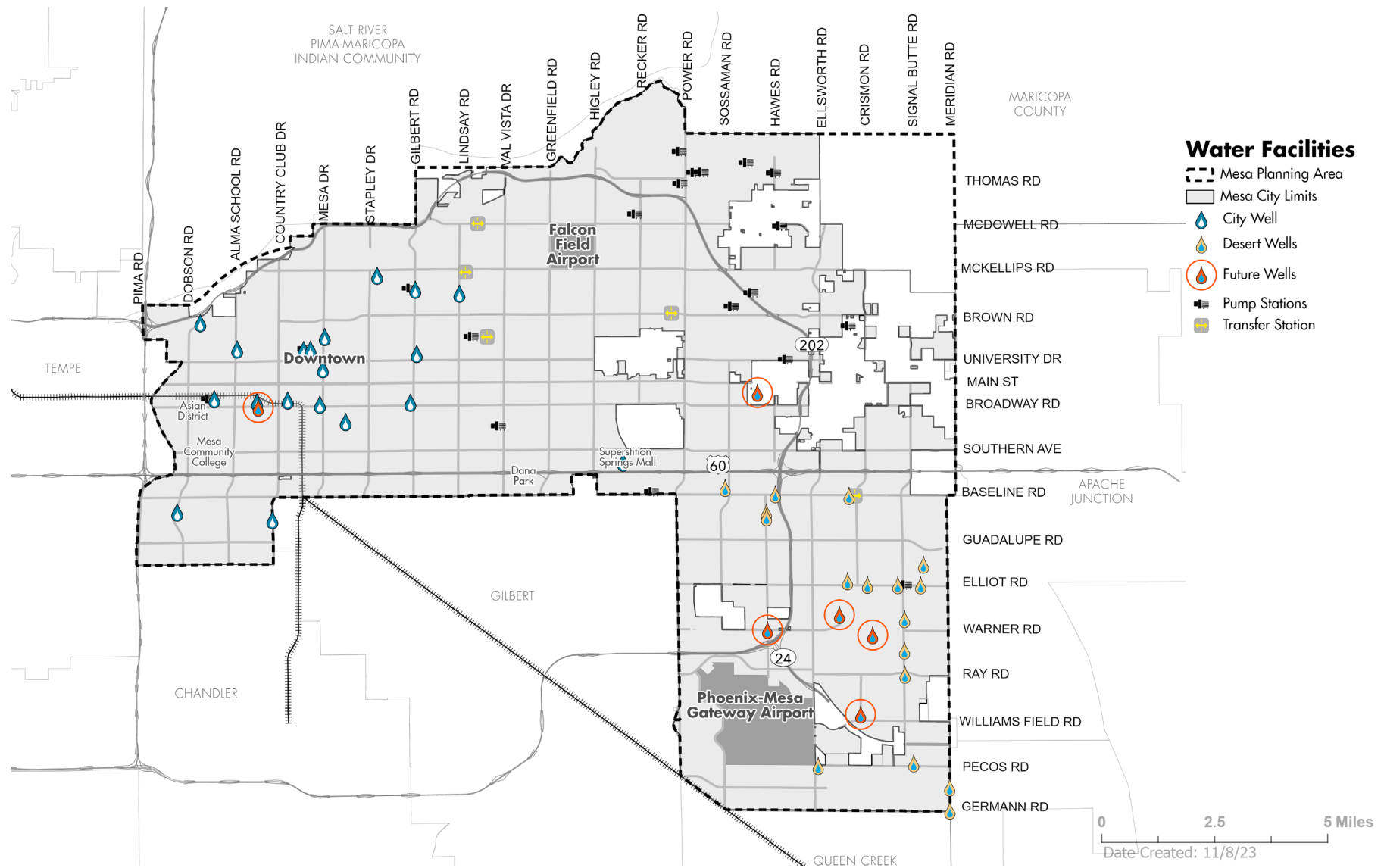


**THE AVERAGE
ACCOUNT USES 521
GALLONS PER DAY**



**WATER DEMAND
HAS INCREASED 4.3%
SINCE 2011**

Figure 33. Water Facilities in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa

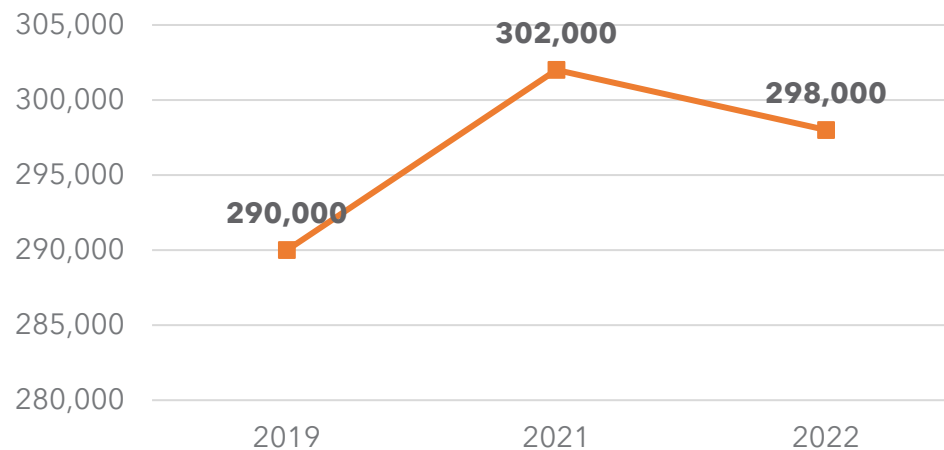


SOLID WASTE

The City of Mesa provides weekly collection of solid waste and recyclables for approximately 148,000 residential accounts. For single-family residential units, residents are provided with two types of barrels for collection of materials. One barrel is for garbage collection and one barrel is for collection of recycling materials. Residents may also request a third barrel for yard waste collection. Businesses and multi-unit complexes can take part in trash and recycling services offered by the City. The City also offers additional service programs, including a household hazardous materials facility, backyard composting, and Christmas tree recycling.

The City saw a 2.75% increase in solid waste collection from 2019 to 2022. In 2022, the City of Mesa collected 298,000 tons of solid waste. This was down slightly (4,000 tons) from 2021.

Figure 34. Annual Tonnage of Solid Waste per Year



Source: City of Mesa



Did You Know?



**IN 2022, THERE WAS
298,000 TONS
OF SOLID WASTE
COLLECTED IN THE
CITY. THIS WAS A
2.75% INCREASE
SINCE 2019**



CULTURAL CENTERS

The Mesa Arts Center (MAC) was completed in 2005, becoming the largest comprehensive arts campus in the state at 210,000 square feet. Within the month of September in 2023, nearly 20,000 people visited the MAC. The expansion of arts as an avenue for cultural hubs within the City has improved economic revenue streams and opportunities for nearby housing, commercial spaces, and events. The City also has the Plaza at Mesa City Center which is a two-acre gathering place, located just south of the ASU MIX Center, with a large open community space, water features, and seasonal ice rink, along with the Mesa Ampitheatre and Convention Center.



LIBRARIES

Mesa has three public libraries and one Express Library, with a fourth library, the Gateway Library in the Eastmark Area planned for 2024. The new library will be a 30,000-square-foot public facility located in the Eastmark community.

In 2022, Mesa Public Libraries issued 1,254 new library cards for a total of 84,709 borrowers system wide. Approximately 52,000 people visit Mesa's libraries each year. The libraries host events, offer a number of services, and act as a resource for language learning, a path to citizenship, adult literacy, and computer classes, etc.

Did You Know?



THE 1ST READING ROOM WAS BUILT IN 1906

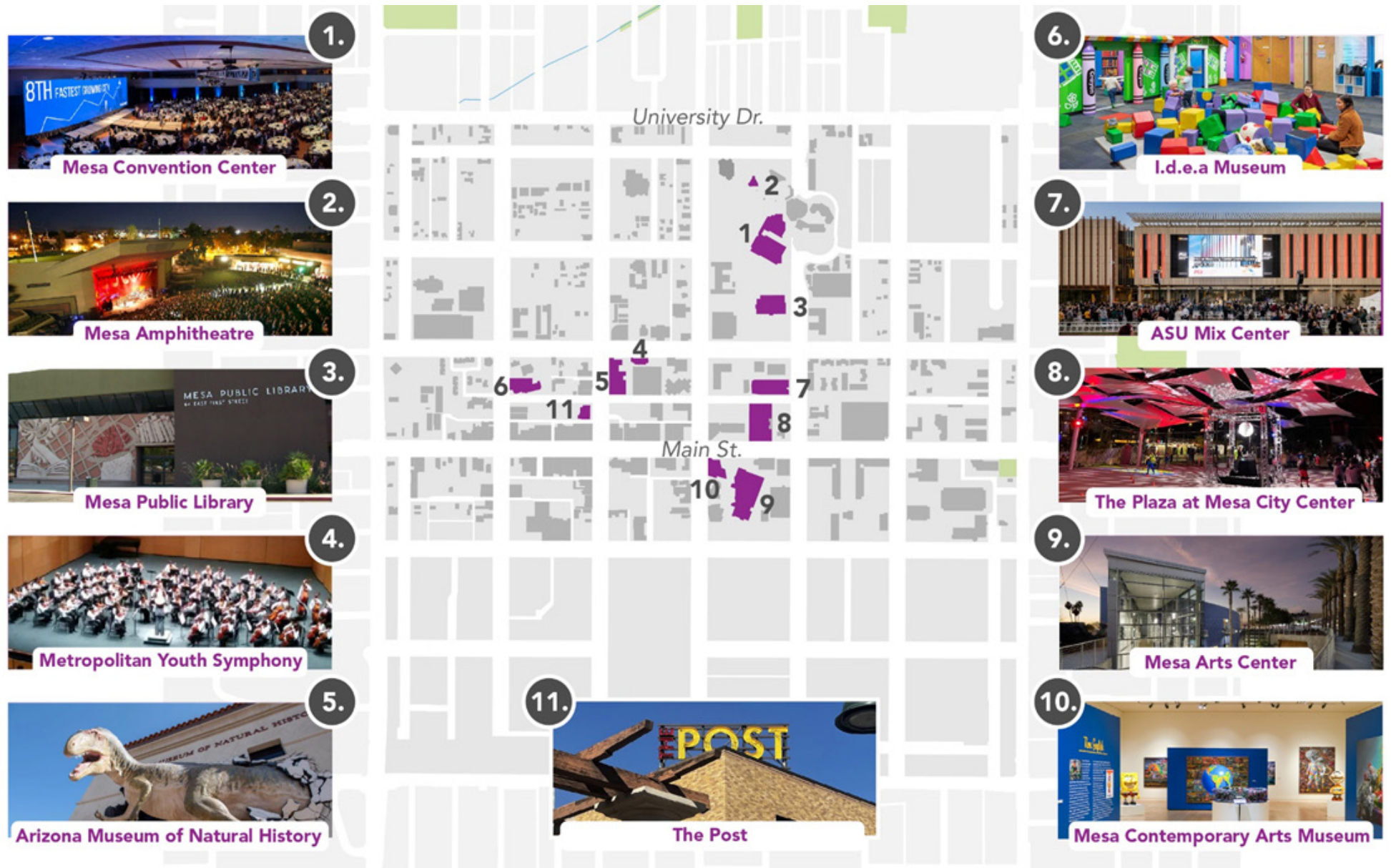


THE MESA ARTS CENTER HOSTS UP TO 800 PERFORMANCES PER YEAR



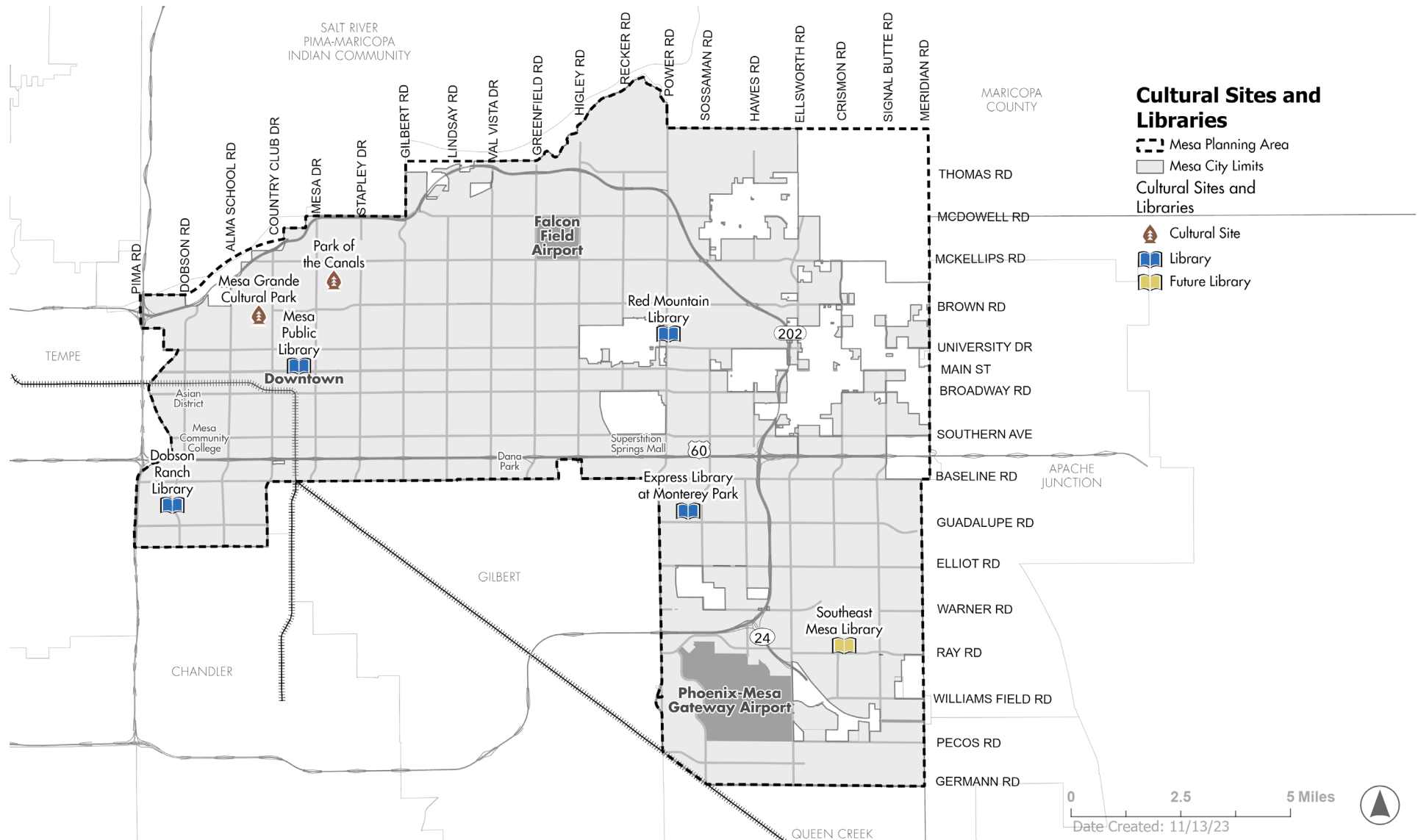
IN 2022, THE ARTS SECTOR ALONE GENERATED \$35.3 MILLION IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN MESA

Figure 35. Downtown Arts and Cultural Amenities



Source: City of Mesa

Figure 36. Cultural Sites and Libraries in Mesa



Source: City of Mesa



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Wireless internet in Mesa is provided by Cox Communications, T-Mobile Home Internet, and Century Link. The City believes access to high-speed internet is an essential component of life, establishing an initiative to provide all households and businesses with high-speed internet through fiber optic cables, allowing multiple providers to implement the latest internet technology for all residents. The City offers free Wi-Fi services in Downtown Mesa, bounded by 1st Street, 1st Avenue, Robson Road, and Centennial Way, as well as at many parks and municipal facility locations.

Telecommunications (phone services) are provided by T-Mobile, Verizon, and AT&T.

Did You Know?



**THERE ARE 110
MILES OF
FIBER OPTIC
AND WIRELESS
CONNECTIVITY IN
THE CITY**



**87 ACRES OF THE
CITY ALSO HAS FREE
WIFI AVAILABLE NEAR
THE DOWNTOWN**





CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT



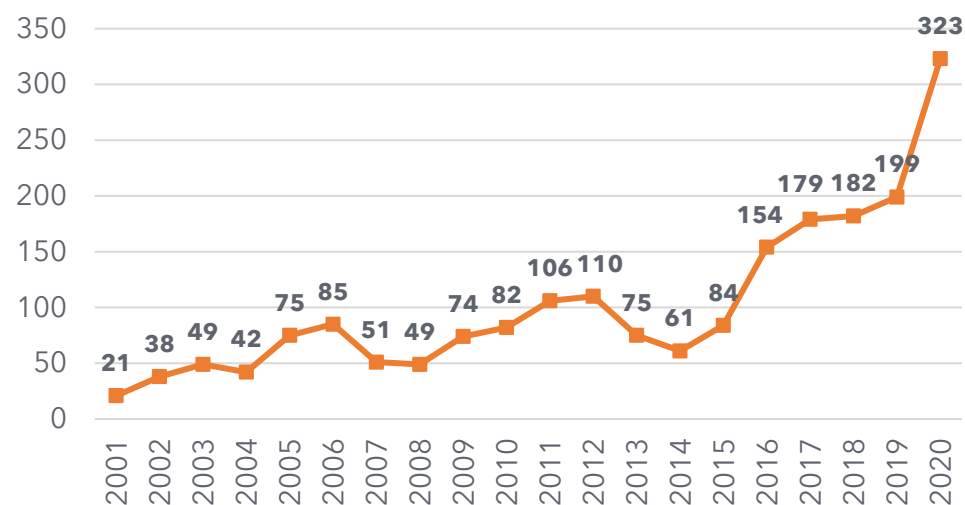
HEAT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Daily temperatures and nightly lows in Mesa have risen over time. From 1981 to 2010, the number of days over 110°F remained around 19 days per year. In 2020, this number increased to 53 days over 110°F. In 2022, temperatures in July reached nearly 120°F and remained over 100°F for the summer months.

According to Climate Check, by 2050, people in Mesa are projected to experience an average of 44 days per year over 109.5°F.

The predominance of extreme heat events in Mesa is also increasing and poses a public safety threat. 2020 was the deadliest year on record in Arizona for heat-related illness and resulted in 323 deaths. In fact, heat related deaths have increased 62.5% since 2001.

Figure 37. Heat-Associated Deaths by Year



Source: Maricopa County Public Health

Did You Know?



**THERE WERE 53
DAYS OVER 110
DEGREES IN 2020!**

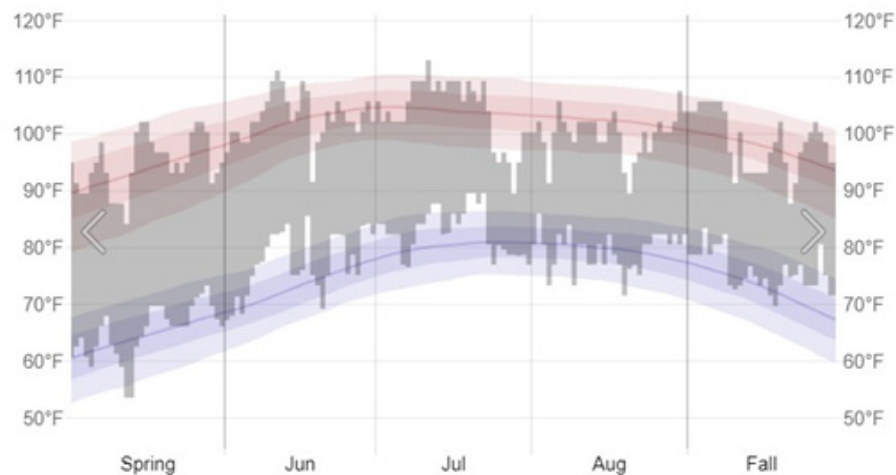




WILDFIRE RISK

Populated areas in Mesa, on average, have a greater risk of wildfires than 30% of communities in the state and 76% of communities in the nation. Over 77,000 properties in Mesa have some risk of being affected by wildfires over the next 30 years, which represents nearly half of all properties in the City.

Figure 38. 2022 Summer Temperatures in Mesa



Source: WeatherSpark 2022



FLOODING RISKS

According to Risk Factor, only 15% of Mesa properties are at risk of being impacted by a 100-year flood event. This is lower than most surrounding communities. Tempe has a risk of 9%, Gilbert is at 47%, and Chandler and Scottsdale are at 20%. Those who live in areas lacking tree canopies and have impervious surfaces, or areas located in 500-year floodplains will be at greater risk of flooding.

Did You Know?



**50% OF MESA'S
WATER SUPPLY
COMES FROM THE
COLORADO
RIVER**



**46% OF PROPERTIES
IN MESA FACE
SOME RISK OF
BEING AFFECTED BY
WILDFIRES**



**10% OF PROPERTIES
HAVE FLOOD RISK**





AIR POLLUTION - OZONE

Ozone at ground level is harmful to human health and is produced when volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) react with heat and sunlight. VOCs and NOx come from cars and trucks, lawnmowers, oil-based paints, cleaners, and some industrial operations. While significant progress has been made to improve air quality in the region, ozone remains a major challenge. The region has not yet met the eight-hour ozone standard and is currently a Nonattainment Area for ozone.



EMISSIONS

Seven actions were outlined in the CAP to help the City reach their goal of carbon neutrality by 2050, including building energy efficient buildings, implementing carbon-free transportation systems, transitioning to clean energy across the grid, reducing waste, and preserving open space.

Emissions from mobile sources (vehicles and transportation) and electricity account for most of the City's emissions. Further, residential sector emissions account for 53%, the commercial sector accounts for 33%, and the industrial sector accounts for 13% of the City's total emissions. To achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, Mesa will need to significantly reduce emissions from electricity use and mobile sources. Reductions in stationary fuel combustion and other sources will also be required.

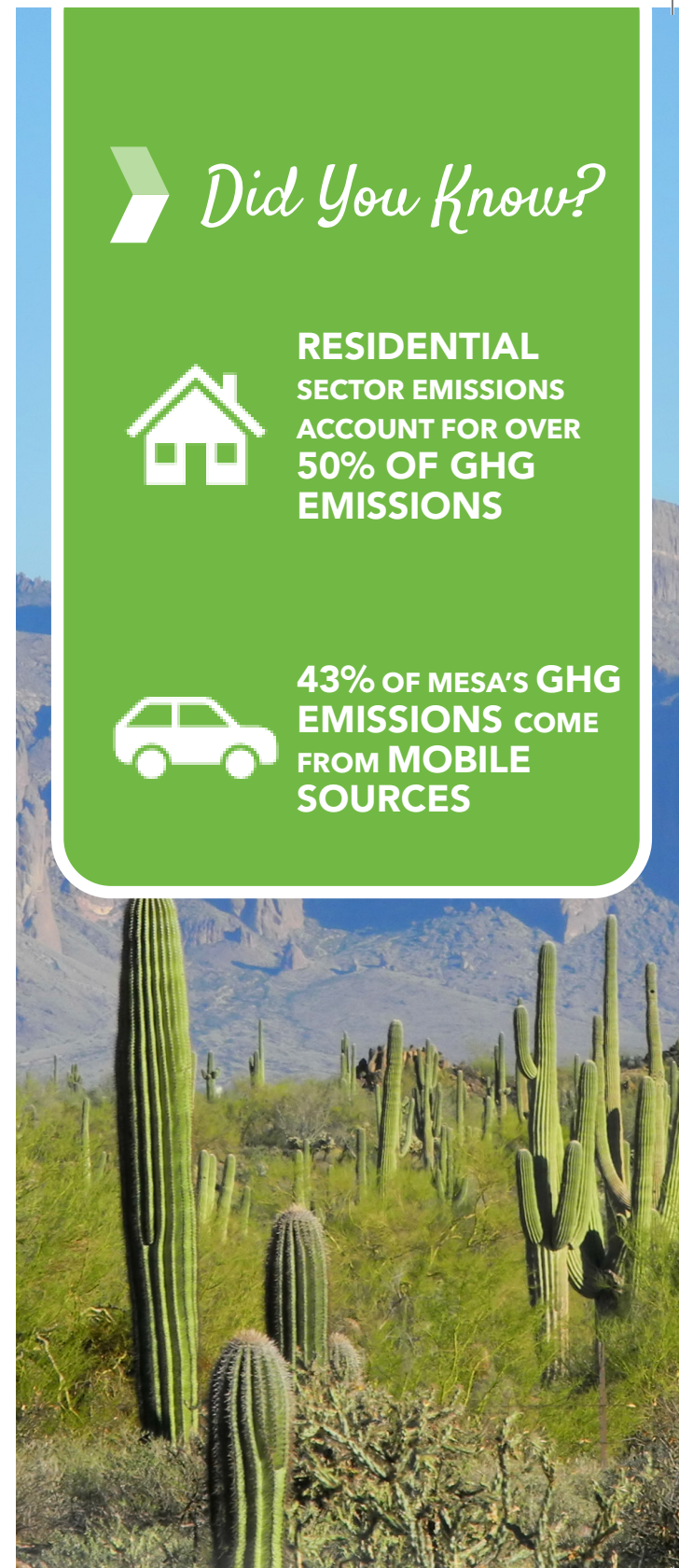
 *Did You Know?*



**RESIDENTIAL
SECTOR EMISSIONS
ACCOUNT FOR OVER
50% OF GHG
EMISSIONS**



**43% OF MESA'S GHG
EMISSIONS COME
FROM MOBILE
SOURCES**

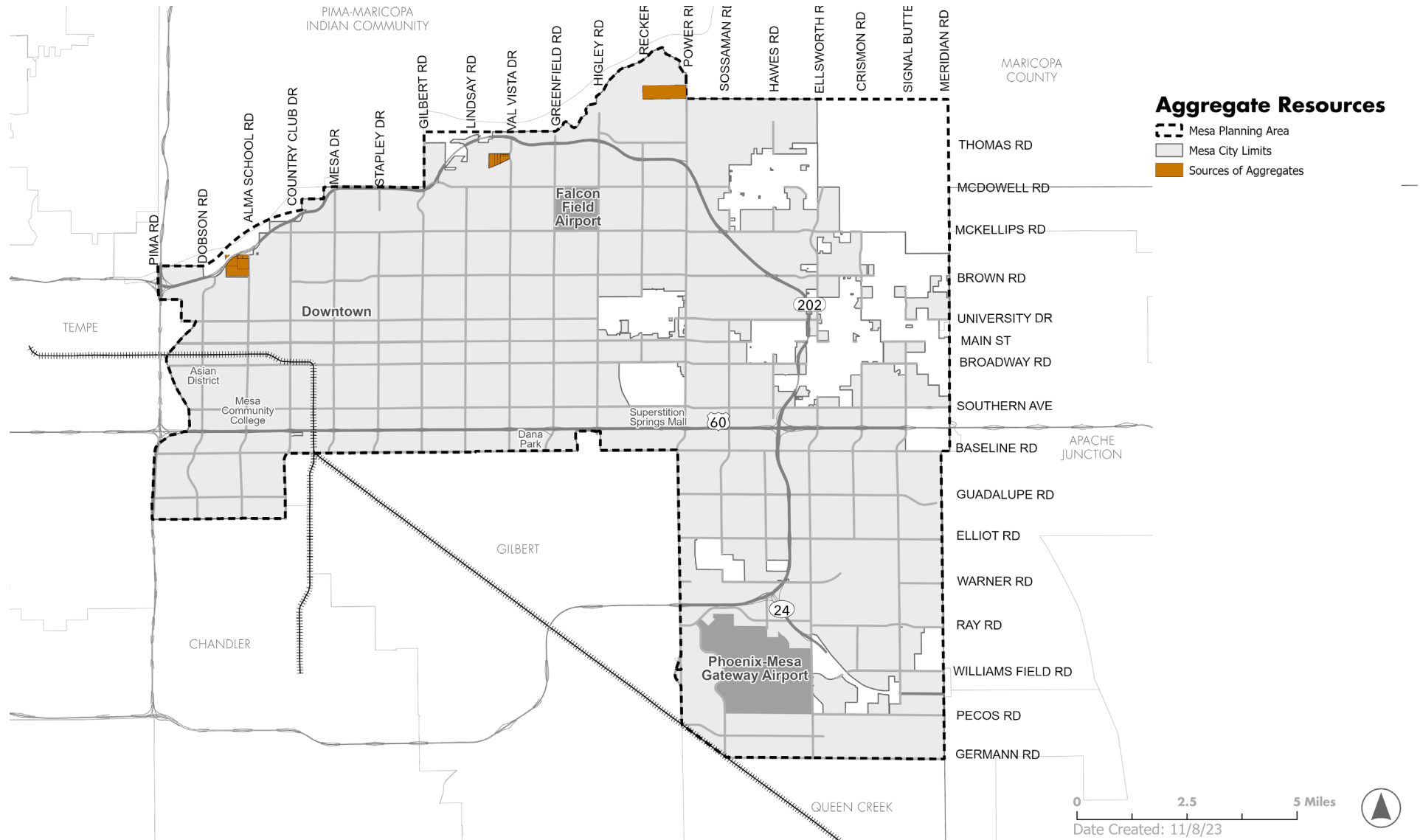




AGGREGATE RESOURCES

Aggregate Resources are areas of geological resources such as sand, gravel, or stone that can be used for active mining operations. The location of these resources are mapped through the Arizona Geological Survey which tracks active mines in Arizona. In 2022 within the City of Mesa, there are two active mining sites, one comprised of aggregates and crushed stone in the north central region of the City, and one active mining site of building stone located on Power Road. There is one additional open pit mine located outside the City boundary but within the MPA near Alma School Road and McKellips Road.

Figure 39. Aggregate Resources Map



Source: Arizona Geological Survey, 2022



tomorrow's
mesa
moving forward together
MESA GENERAL PLAN 2050